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Petrochemical Growth: Will it Affect Oil and Gas Production?

ABSTRACT

The petrochemical industry has been and promises to continue to be a rapid-growth industry. Vital factors in selecting a chemical-plant location are low cost, long-range raw material supplies, market accessibility, and local considerations such as labor, utilities, and land costs. Individual producers will find the petrochemical industry a good customer. Although the dollar value of petrochemicals is important, the volume of petroleum consumed in their manufacture is too small to have a significant effect on over all oil and gas production.

T. G. Hughes
President, Oronite Chemical Company, San Francisco

In recent months I feel certain that you have all been hearing and reading a great deal about the swift and widespread expansion of one of this country's new industries—the petrochemical industry. The name itself—coined by some enterprising ad man—has a fine ring of promise. It connotes the mating of two great industries—petroleum and chemical—to give birth to a wholly new realm of enterprise.

From its beginning in the 1920's, the petrochemical industry has grown to a business with an investment of some 3 billion dollars. One hundred seventy-six companies are operating, or have planned, 322 plants in the United States and Canada. Of these 62 are petroleum companies, 102 are chemical companies ,and 12 are joint ventures.[1] Investment houses, a good barometer, consider petrochemicals one of the best growth industries with good future returns promised in relation to the risk.

With all of this in mind, you might conclude that petrochemicals bid fair to alter the traditional markets for crude oil and gas. You might even say it's beginning to look as though the petrochemicals tail, before too long, will be wagging the petroleum dog. If that's really the case, it should have a significant effect on the oil and gas producing industries. But let's take a closer, more critical look at our petrochemicals tail and see just how strong it is, how influential it figures to become.

First of all, what makes petrochemicals so attractive to investors and, of course, in their final forms, to consumers? Taking a few of the more outstanding examples, consider first the synthetic detergents. This industry, you will recall, had its big start immediately following World War II when the base material now used in practically all of the synthetic detergents was developed from petroleum. The excellent cleaning ability of the products, and particularly their resistance to hard water—no soap scum—give them rapid acceptance by the housewives. Fig. 1 shows the history of their rise in popularity.

The first products, you may remember, were used primarily for washing dishes. In 1948-1949 the soap companies developed special formulations that extended their use to the washing-machine field, so that now nearly 60 percent of the soap company sales are based on petroleum-derived synthetic detergents. Of course, the rate of increase is slowing down appreciably as the line approaches the total soap and detergent sales.

Petrochemicals are assuming major importance in the plastic field. From Fig. 2 it will be seen that plastics have also been a rapid-growth industry. It is reasonable to expect the growth will continue in those applications where their special properties justify their higher cost. Today you can buy everything from polyethylene squeeze bottles to sports cars molded from petrochemical plastics. Although their growth has been spectacular, their consumption in pounds is still less than 1 percent that of other structural materials, which leaves considerable room for expansion.

Dacron*, polyester fiber, and most of the new synthetic fibers coming into wider use are petroleum derivatives. Their advantages, such as resistance to wrinkling, long wear, and appearance, are making them increasingly popular. By way of illustration, Fig. 3 plots the growth of synthetic fibers against the natural fibers such as cotton and wool.

[1]References are at the end of the paper.

*du Pont trademark.

Rayon is not included in the synthetic-fiber statistics, as it is largely derived from wood pulp. Let me caution you against trying to extrapolate the synthetic-fiber curve and reach the conclusion that cotton will be displaced by petrochemical fibers before 1970! Although the consumption of synthetic fibers is about 200 million pounds, it is still only 4 percent of cotton consumption. As the percentages rises, the rate of growth will undoubtedly slacken.

You find petroleum chemicals in almost every field of use today—synthetic rubber, gasoline and lubricating-oil additives, paint, insecticides, and medicines, to name a few. The variety of products and the untapped potential capture the imagination. A luncheon speaker in our area is making a hit talking about chemicals that come out of petroleum's "magic barrel."

But stripped of the magic—and illuminated in the cold light reflected by a silver dollar—what effect is all this going to have on your business, the business of producing oil and gas? To answer that, consider the basic characteristics that many petrochemicals have in common.

First, they derive their value and their utility, not from the intrinsic value of the raw material from which they originate, but from complex and costly manufacturing processes. Second, although we refer to these chemicals as petrochemicals, many can be manufactured just as readily from alternate raw materials, such as wood, coal, and even molasses. A classic example is du Pont nylon in which the same intermediate chemical is being produced from six different sources, as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1
Nylon Raw Materials

Raw-material Source	Raw Material
Natural gas	Butane
Gasoline fraction	Cyclohexane
Coal tar	Benzene
Oat hulls, Corn cobs, Sugar-cane bagasse	Furfural

Now, because the price is favorable, oil and natural gas are pulling ahead of alternate raw materials in many lines of chemical production—nylon among them.

This following tabulation lists some other leading products and the percentages manufactured from petroleum and the alternate sources.

Chemical	Percent Now Produced From Petroleum	Alternate Raw Material
Ammonia	85	Coal
Methyl alcohol (formerly called wood alcohol	80	Coal and wood
Ethyl alcohol	57	Molasses and other agricultural products
Toluene	60	Coal
Xylene	86	Coal

Each of these products, 30 years ago, was manufactured entirely from materials other than petroleum. So that gives an idea of how far petroleum has come in this competition.

However, I don't want to convey the impression that oil and gas have won and the contest is over. Advances are also being made in the technology of converting coal to chemicals. Carbide and Carbon, for example, is reported to be operating an 11-million-dollar pilot plant turning 600 tons a day of coal into aromatic chemicals by coal hydrogenation.

The significance of all this to oil and gas producers should be clear, I believe; and it is this: The prosperity of the petrochemical industry depends fundamentally upon big-volume, low-cost sources of raw materials.

The price has to continue to be right. If the value of crude oil or natural gas reaches the point where the alternate raw materials can come back strongly into the picture, then the petrochemical industry will begin to tail off and we'll see a booming coal-chemical industry, or a molasses-chemical industry—or a corncob-chemical industry—whatever happens to be cheapest. In short, I submit that very few oil and gas

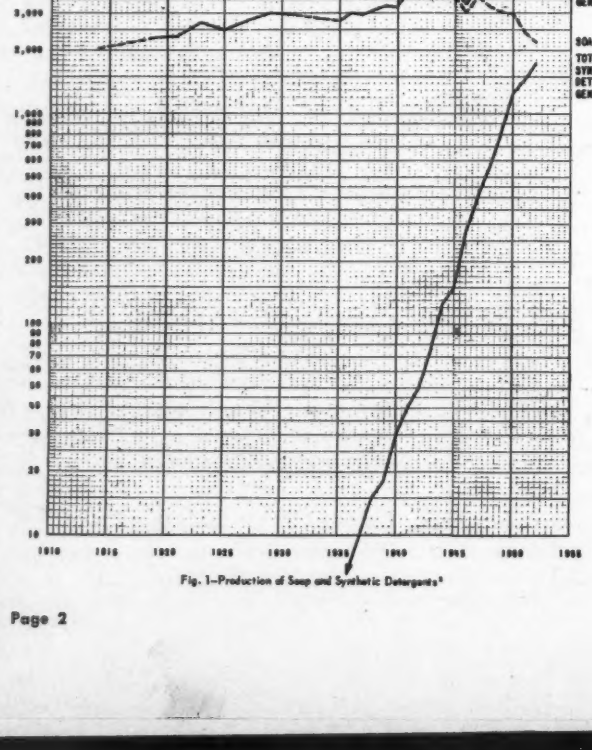


Fig. 1–Production of Soap and Synthetic Detergents*

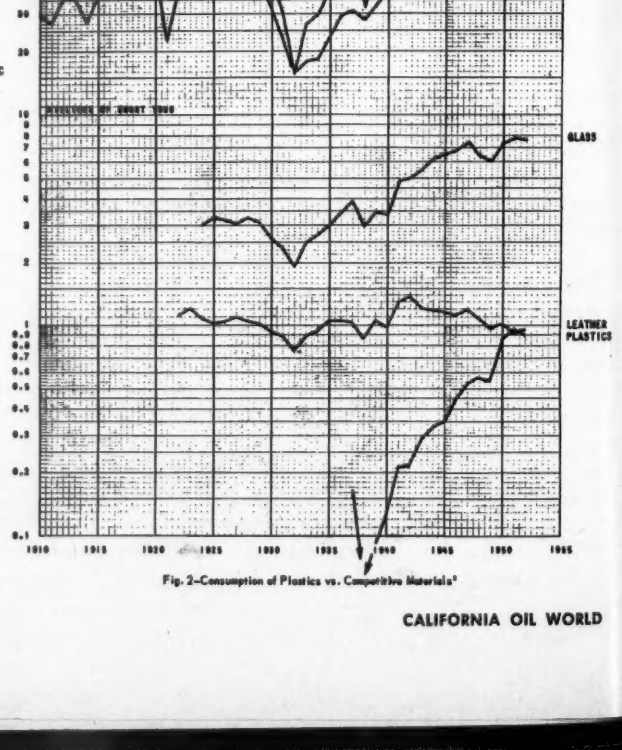


Fig. 2–Consumption of Plastics vs. Competitive Materials*

producers are going to wax very prosperous solely on account of the growth in petrochemicals.

However, before I am accused of wielding a wet blanket, I hasten to add that this does not mean that some producers—those who are properly located and have sufficient long-range reserves—will not be able to profit from doing business with the petrochemical industry.

The next questions to consider, then, are: Which petrochemical markets will oil and gas producers be able to serve profitably? How big will those markets be? Here are the answers, as I see them.

First, with respect to crude oil, I do not believe your existing marketing pattern is going to be altered by the expansion of petrochemicals. As you know, crude oil is composed of many thousands of different chemical compounds and many more are formed during cracking and other refining operations. Only a small portion of these are desirable for the manufacture of petrochemicals. Thus, a fully integrated petroleum refinery is needed to separate the small percentage of desirable types for chemicals and to consume the large remainder in conventional refinery products. Although it is true that many refineries, particularly the larger units, are entering into petrochemicals, their chemical production in oil-company units of barrels per day is small compared to their overall petroleum consumption. For example, one of the largest operators in the petrochemical business has a chemical production of less than 15,000 bbls. per day, which is about 3 percent of the company's crude oil throughput.

Next let us consider natural gas and LPG. This is the segment of your industry likely to be more directly concerned with the petrochemical industry. In these products, we are dealing primarily with only four molecular species. As you know, methane is in greatest abundance with smaller quantities of ethane, propane, and butane. Relatively simple processes, by chemical-industry standards, are needed to isolate the fractions of natural gas or LPG for manufacture of chemical derivatives. Thus, petrochemical companies can be your direct customers. First, let us look at some of the chemicals now being made from one of these raw materials—methane.

Table 2
Chemicals from Methane

Chemical	Major End Use
Ammonia	Fertilizers
Methyl alcohol	Anti-Freeze and raw materials for formaldehyde (used in plastics)
Hydrogen cyanide	
Acetylene	Plastics and synthetic fibers
Methyl chloride, methylene dichloride, chloroform, and carbon tetrachloride	Welding, vinyl plastics and neoprene rubber
	Solvents and refrigerants
Carbon black	Rubber compounding

As we go on to ethane, propane, and butane, the number of chemical derivatives becomes much greater and far too numerous to list here. Several dozen major chemical products are involved.

Many of the plants making chemicals from natural gas and LPG are thirsty consumers of raw materials. For example, a single ammonia plant may consume some 8 million cubic feet of natural gas daily for a production of 200 tons a day of ammonia. A butadiene plant for synthetic rubber could use around 115,000 gal. a day of normal butane for an annual output of 50,000 tons of butadiene.

Now, suppose you are a producer of natural gas and you wish to consider participating in the petrochemical field. What are some of the factors in determining whether you could attract a petrochemical plant to your location?

First and foremost, you must have an assured long-range source of supply. Chemical plants, as you probably know, are expensive to build. Investments of 10 to 20 million dollars are not common. Quite obviously, no chemical producer is interested in investing money of this magnitude in a plant that may be shut down by running out of raw materials.

Second is the value of the gas. As mentioned earlier, the chemical industry is highly competitive at all levels and low-cost raw material supplies are essential. Stability of both supply and price have been important factors in the increasing consumption of petroleum as a raw material for chemicals.

The third item is strategic location. As in the petroleum industry freight costs are important, particularly on low unit-value items. Consideration of each chemical project involves detailed calculations on the relative economics of transporting raw materials vs. transporting finished products. There is no single generalized answer. An interesting recent compromise is the selection of sites along large gas-transmission lines. One case in point is the National Petrochemicals Corporation's plant at Tuscola, Illinois. It is located on the Panhandle Eastern Pipeline and is owned 40 percent by Panhandle Eastern and the balance by National Distillers. This, incidentally, is a good example of how diversified the chemical business can be. Even the whiskey manufacturers are getting into it. Another plant is at Greensburg, Kentucky. It is jointly owned by Tennessee Gas Transmission Company and Methieson Chemical, and is on the gas company's line.

If you are able to make the first three hurdles of long-range supply, low value, and strategic location, then you come to other local considerations. These would be common to any refining operation and would include such items as adequate labor supply, availability of reasonably priced utilities, and low land costs. If you can match these requirements, then you are in position to do business with the chemical industry.

Your problem then becomes one of finding an organization which has, or thinks it has, sufficient market for a large-scale low-production-cost chemical plant. It must also have a fat pocket-book, a desire to gamble, and the know-how to carry the project to successful plant completion and operation. The advantage to you would be acquiring a steady customer for a good many years to come.

Two additional questions remain to be answered. I have talked in generalities about the growing petrochemical industry, but just how big is this industry likely to become, and what will it mean in terms of its consumption of crude oil and natural gas?

Considering the question of

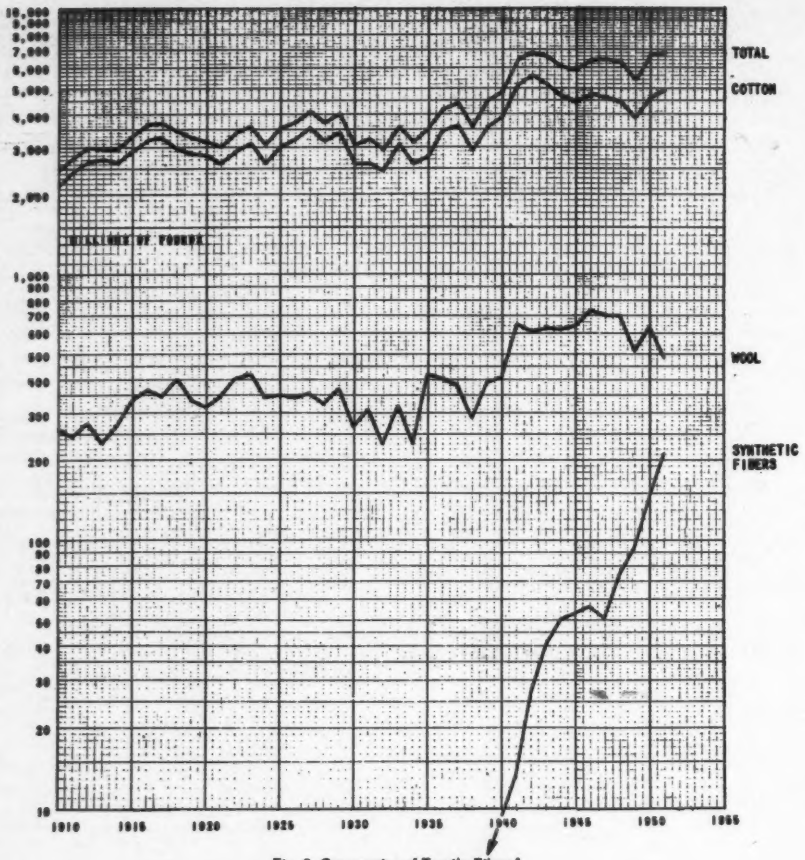


Fig. 3–Consumption of Textile Fibers[2]

growth first: This year, the manufacture of petrochemicals will amount to about thirty billion pounds with a value of about 3½ billion dollars. For comparison, the total annual field value of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States is about 7½ billion dollars. You are undoubtedly familiar with the report published by the President's Materials Policy Commission. According to their estimate, by 1975 the manufacturing volume of petrochemicals will be around 54 billion pounds. That is better than 150-percent expansion.

Now — what about the second question: What will this growth mean in terms of oil and gas consumption? The answer—from your point of view this time—is not very much. To be perfectly frank, the volume of consumption by petrochemical manufacturers, in relation to total national petroleum production, is insignificant. Right now, less than 1 percent of the crude oil and gas produced in this country is winding up in petrochemicals.

The outlook for the future, as you might suspect, is better but still relatively modest. Using the figures of the President's Commission again, their guess is that by 1975 the chemical people will be consuming about two percent of total oil and gas production.

Table 3 shows the whole picture, projected at five-year intervals.

Table 3
Oil and Gas Consumption
by Petrochemical Industry
(Estimates by President's Materials Policy Commission)

	Natural Gas (MMcf per day)	Oil (Bbl. per day)	Percent of Total Natural Gas and Oil
1950	...180	36,500	.68
1955	...390	80,000	1.1
1960	...530	115,000	1.4
1965	...650	152,000	1.6
1970	...760	186,000	1.8
1975	...870	225,000	2.0

As you can see, it gives promise of substantial growth—but I suspect that these figures will not excite many of you producers.

To sum up, let me repeat what I said earlier: The growth of the petrochemical industry will not come anywhere near revolutionizing the market outlook for oil and gas production. Some individual producers —those who are able to meet the special requirements of petrochemical manufacturers—no doubt will find it advantageous to be the suppliers of raw materials for this growing, new industry. But the tail will not wag the dog.

That's the story. If it does not come exactly as a surprise to you, I hope that it at least has served to confirm your own convictions, and to help put what you have read and heard about the petrochemicals into its proper perspective.

References

1. New 1954 Petrochemical Survey, Petroleum Processing, September (1954).

2. Chemicals Economics Handbook, Stanford Research Institute.

3. Forecasts for Petroleum Chemicals, Chap. 14, The Promise of Technology, Report of President's Materials Policy Commission.

Presented at A.P.I. Annual Meeting

P.E.S.A. Meeting Scheduled For February 9th

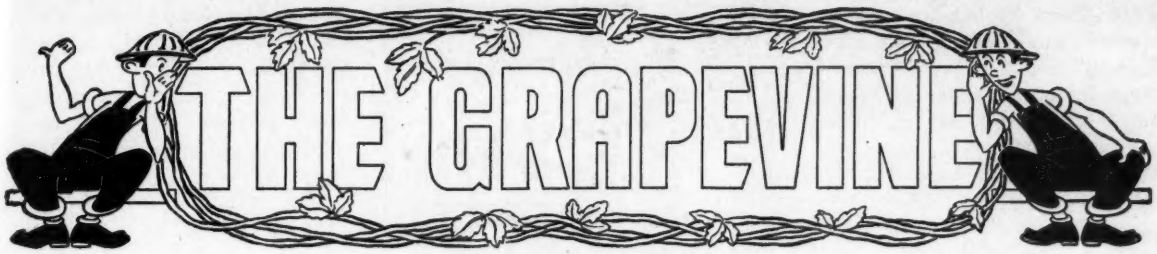
Ott Hammer, Chairman of the Pacific District, Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association has announced a Pacific District membership which will be held Wednesday, February 9, 1955 at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

The meeting will begin at 3:45 P.M. with a business session in the Ambassador Theater and followed by a reception and dinner in the Embassy Room. A feature of the afternoon business session will be an address by Mr. A. C. Rubel, Vice President in charge of Exploration and Production, Union Oil Co. of California. Mr. Rubel's subject will be "Oil Development Off the California Coast."

Mr. R. S. Durkee and Mr. M. E. Montrose, National President and Vice President respectively of the Association will give short talks following dinner.

Mr. Hammer wishes to stress the point that representatives of member firms whose membership is in other districts are not only welcome but urged to attend.

Reservations for the meeting may be made through Walter F. Pusch, 634 South Spring Street, Los Angeles. Telephone MIchigan 4327.



By RICHARD SNEDDON

Arizonan Is Honored

We note that our old buddy, Union Oil Company's manager of employment, John Phillip Rockfellow, variously known as John D. Phil, Grebe, and Rocky, has just been given a citation by the National Vocational Guidance Association for his pioneering effort in the matter of college recruitment, and there is no doubt whatever that the honor is well merited. A lot of organizations are now following the pattern that Rocky began to exploit some 25 years ago and a lot of erstwhile youngsters who were picked up off college campuses all around the country by the noted Arizonan in his earlier rounds are now old men with white beards, serving on boards of directors. We can't understand why some movie producer doesn't command his underlings to do the Rockfellow story, for the guy has more public than Marilyn Monroe and he has acquired it, mark you, with an altogether different lure. Anyway, in our book, Rocky is one of the grandest guys that ever lived. He has done more genuine good for more grateful people than anyone we know; he is the most consistently good natured lad of our acquaintance; and he is altogether as thoroughly likeable and as universally well liked as any man could be.

More Scuttlebutt

We don't like to detract from a really scintillating performance but there is no such thing as a completely unblemished career and there are a few pretty black smudges even on the Rockfellow escutcheon that should be disclosed, regardless of effect. We can well remember his embarrassment one late afternoon on a San Jose golf course when he thought he had found eighteen golf balls and was gathering them up excitedly when the chap who was shooting a bucket of practice balls over the top of the hill dashed down and asked him what the so and so he thought he was doing. We also have irrefutable evidence that he was once a habitue of the prize ring and gave it up only after being ignominiously beaten in the second round of a four round slugging match with a promising young paperweight, named KO Sneddon. And last but not least, in recent years he has become involved in a succession of shady cattle deals with two other rustlers, listed by the FBI as Pinto Pate and Tailgate Robinson. So far the trio has not been called to account for its multifarious and illicit operations but it's a lead pipe cinch that a retributive justice will eventually send all of them to the bastille.

Wedding Bells

The recent press carries a story of the engagement of Wilbur Bettis Jr. to Lauragene Wood, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Laurin L. Wood of Los Angeles. Bill Jr. is, of course, the immediate descendant of Bill Sr., the recently transplanted Johnston Tester executive, and the marriage is of more than general interest to the wide circle of friends that the Bettises have built up among the petroleum people here over the past 25 years more or less. Young Bill is in the Navy Aircorps and the wedding is planned to take place in Los Angeles after he receives his ensign commission in the fall. If news press photos are to be trusted, the lovely bride to be bears rather a close resemblance to her prospective mother-in-law and that is quite a compliment for Marge Bettis is a beautiful gal who retains her youthful appearance and energy in a remarkable way. As a matter of fact, Bill Sr. is a perennially young looking chap, too, whose collegiate looks stoutly belie his years but whose capacities for varied accomplishment demonstrate extended experience as well as native understanding. Anyway, our best wishes to the second generation Bettises and as they say in Caledonia, "Long may their lum reek!"

Nomad Officers

Speaking of Bill Bettis who is one of the founders and a past president of Los Angeles Nomads, reminds us that the local chapter has just chosen its officers for the ensuing year, as follows and to wit: The new president is another beau brummel in the person of Joe Schlarb, the Chiksan sales whiz. Joe is one of the most sartorially correct people now frequenting the derrick groves and in addition to being a pretty capable fellow has enough consideration for the other guy and his problem to make himself a mighty popular member of society wherever he may be. We predict that Joe will be a fine successor to a fine predecessor, John Flanagan; the vice president is that energetic McCullough Tool Company attache, Harry Hester, a civic minded lad who devotes what little spare time he has to the sort of humanitarian enterprise that incrases one's personal satisfaction and standing in the community but does nothing for one's bunions or bank balance; secretary is an inventive Emsconian, Earle "Pop" Atkins, whose familarity with swivel joints has made him one of the best golfers in the equipment industry.

Others on the Roster

Treasurer is Leo Cypher, The

Baash-Ross higher-up, whose stout guardianship of the Nomad exchequer at whingdings inaugural balls and other hair-letting-down affairs during the past few years has shown him to be a natural for the shekel squeezing office; sergeant-at-arms is the tall, good looking Wagner-Morehouse engineer, Bob Gaylord, who is eminently fitted for the assignment by virtue of the fact that his head reaches well into the stratosphere. Thence he can look down on the madding throng and woe betide the rapscallion who comports himself like a rapscallion; assistant secretary is that quiet mannered, gentlemanly chap, Knight Templeton, who performs as export expert for S. R. Bowen, and in such rare free moments as he can find, smacks a golf ball about the pasture with a fair degree of accuracy; assistant custodian of the mazuma is Harry Taylor, Bettis Rubber Company's candidate for the Calvert "men of distinction" series. Harry's prematurely white hair gives him that "board of directors" look that we lads with naked skulls would sacrifice an eyetooth to acquire; deputy sergeant-at-arms is the up-and-coming young Hydriller, Rex Collins, who has already traveled more miles than Marco Polo and has equipped himself ideally for his latest Nomadic assignment by a study of "bouncer" and "chucker out" techniques in most of the lands he has visited. Senior regent for California is Jim Hughes and junior regent is ex-prexy, John Flanagan. Altogether we would say that with such a set-up, the Los Angeles chapter Nomads are in elegant shape for another year of really constructive operation.

Notes From Harvard

Mention of Jim Hughes reminds us that a few days after the recently elevated executive vice president of Lane Wells arrived back from Harvard with a red blazer and an r-less vocabulary, we and Stark Fox tackled him and Dee Taylor in a tile tossing joust that was more costly than the Louisiana purchase. Jim wouldn't admit it, but from his performance on this occasion, we judge that the Harvard business management curriculum must include a course in tile tossing with special emphasis on drawing and pegging. In any case, to our utter humiliation we were forced to cut the emergency five spot out of our coat lining and are now going about in mortal fear of contracting a chest cold. Meantime we watch carefully from a distance now until we see Jim Hughes settled with another brace of pigeons before we enter the game room and bark an acidic hello at him.

The Lufkin Line

ABOUT TURKEY ... AND TEXAS

In our **World Book Encylopedia** (which incidentally, is a "must" if you have school kids in your family) Vol. 16, page 8215 under the "T's" **Turkey is compared with Texas.**

Turkey is somewhat larger than Texas with an area of 296,107 square miles. Texas has an area of 267,339 square miles.

E. W. "Bill" Van Ness, **contract administrator** for **The Ralph M. Parsons Company,** on a recent **trip to Ankara** was much too busy with executive matters to give us a report on the weather, but we gather from our text that Turkey and Texas have somewhat similar climatic characteristics . . . moist, sub-tropical along the coastal areas . . . hot and dry inland.

Winters . . . well . . . inland in either country . . . we have it on good authority of **M. T. A.'s Oguz Avdan and Ferdi Ozmen,** that if you can arrange Palm Beach, Florida . . . go there!

Oil is produced in Turkey where **The Ralph M. Parsons Company** is completing a fine new modern refinery together with pipeline and pumping facilities.

Oil is pumped in Turkey and **Lufkin is proud to be a participant in the new development of its petroleum industry.** Lufkin pumping units are a familiar sight in the **world's important oil fields.**

Working closely with **The Ralph M. Parson's home office in Los Angeles,** shipping arrangements were completed and on the evening of January 13th at the **Port of New Orleans,** just overnight from our factory at **Lufkin, Texas,** the vessel Gregorius III hauled in her gangplank . . . and with a few mellow blasts from her whistle . . . quietly slipped from her moorings. Soon she would vanish over the Gulf Horizon, sailing for the **Port of Iskenderun, Turkey.**

Bon voyage!

(Lufkin produces the finest . . . Gears . . . for Cooling Towers . . . Herringbone Reducers, double and single reduction . . . Pumping Units . . . 2-Cycle Gas Engines.)

Page Mr. Ripley

Incidentally, in one of the most amazing domino games in domino history the other noon, Milt Lewis, the Petroleum Club champ, and Olen Lane, the Continental Oil Company chief out this-away, matched wits and freckles with Paul Andrews, The Signal Oil & Gas Company engineering brain, and Dee Taylor, the Shell Company geological biggie. This fracas developed a series of coincidences that are almost unbelievable. Not knowing our theory of probabilities too well we don't know just what the odds are against getting five doubles in a domino hand (must ask Dean Walling, the Western Geophysical mathematical genius about that some time) but it is almost the same, we imagine, as are the chances of survival for a snowball in the nether regions. Nonetheless, in this particular encounter, Olen Lane picked up the coveted combination in one hand and Dee Taylor repeated the feat in the next one. Then to top everything, one game was completely blocked, as occasionally happens, and when the rocks were counted, all four players had exactly 21. Isn't that interesting!

Chaos and Confusion

Two of the most look-alike and act-alike people in the petroleum equipment industry are Verdi Boyer, the Sargent Engineering Corporation behemoth, and Roger

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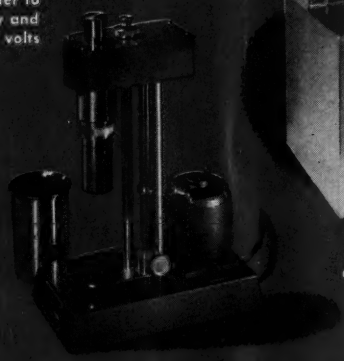

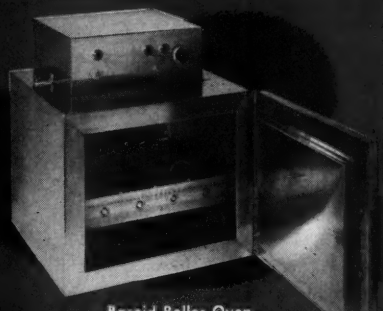

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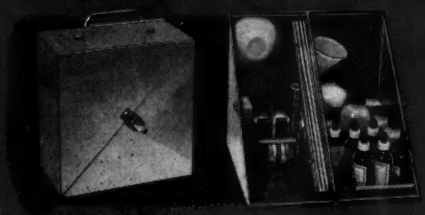

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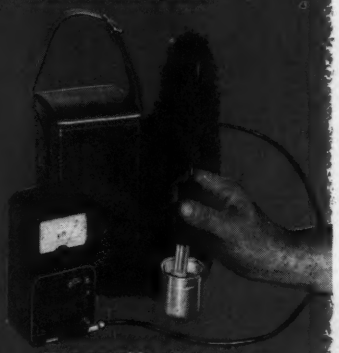

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"Pete" Peters, the ditto ditto from Shaffer Tool Works. Ever since Pete went around serving liquid amber at a recent PPP gathering, the pioneers have been thanking Verdi like everything for being such a solicitous chap. The whole situation is getting more confusing by the minute. We understand that when Verdi has a headache, it's Pete who takes the aspirin tablet, and we have even heard that Pete's gin rummy debtors invariably pay off to Verdi. Personally, we no longer have trouble distinguishing between the two guys—not since Pete bought that charcoal sports coat.

The Passing of a Pioneer

We note the passing of a well known petroleum pioneer, W. H. "Bill" Loomis, for a time Los Angeles Basin superintendent for The Texas Company, and for the last few years before his retirement, superintendent in the Ventura district. Bill was born in Silver Lake, New Mexico, and began work with The Texas Company in 1920 so that he had spent altogether some 32 years with the makers of Fire Chief. His health had been somewhat impaired during 1954 but as his letters always attested, he was optimistic about returning to his customary vigor. He especially enjoyed his membership in Petroleum Production Pioneers, the meetings of which he attended whenever he felt well enough to do so. Bill lived a full and constructive life, mostly among the oil people of the Los Angeles Basin, and his death brings genuine sadness to the many industry friends he acquired.

Petroleum Club News

At the annual meeting of the Petroleum Club in January, the following officers were elected to guide the destinies of the institution in 1955: President, A. C. "Cy" Rubel, Union Oil Company; vice president, Olen Lane, Continental Oil Company; Perennial secretary, Jim Leovy, Western Gulf Oil Company; and treasurer, Gordon Campbell, General Petroleum Corporation. With Dave Day in the chair, a financial report was given by Gordon Campbell, covering last year's business, that showed the Club to be in an excellent state of preservation. In the course of the evening, mementoes in the form of gold plated and suitably inscribed gavels were presented to Bill Geis and Dave Day for their good works over the past two years. The Club has been operating for some considerable time with a full quota of members and has become one of the most enjoyable meeting places in the city of Los Angeles.

Speedo Swift Retires

Our good friend, Claude "Speedo" Swift, Union Oil Company vice president and head of the research department, has retired, and that brings back some very pleasant memories. We had many a good time with Speedo away back in the distant days when we both worked (the word is used loosely) in the Wilmington research lab which we thought was a pretty sharp

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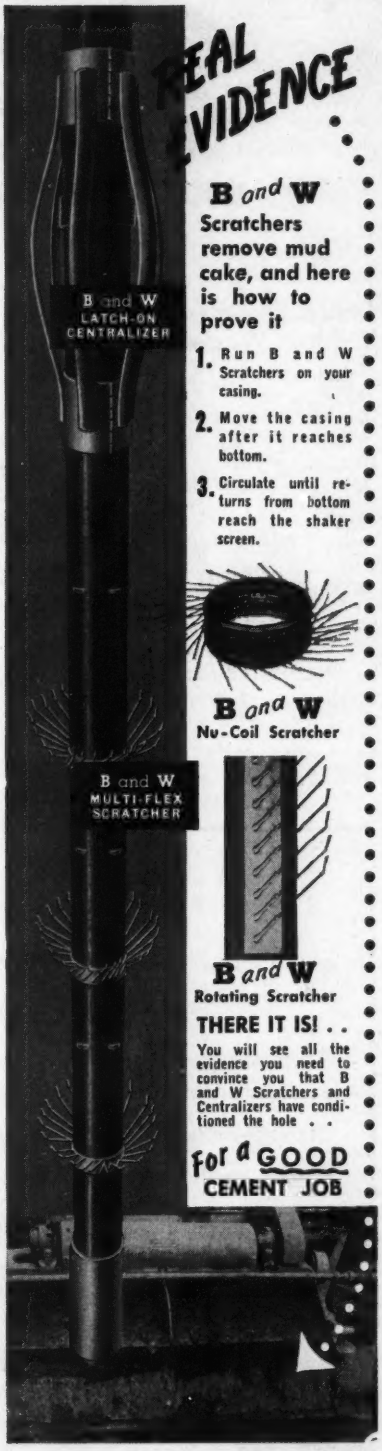
layout at that time but looks pretty puny now beside the terrific research facilities by which it has been superseded. Once in our younger days, along with Speedo we made an analysis of all available research reports and to our amazement we discovered that 96.8% ended with the same familiar few words, to wit, "further work will have to be done before definite conclusions can be drawn." These were the days when we worked alongside such noted people as Al Bly, the distinguished Iowan, now with Richfield refining department; Dinty Moore, the gunsmith; Maynard Reynolds, the fishing fly tier, a phrase incidentally that would make a dandy sobriety test; Kit Ketteringham, whose hobby was buying Willys Knight cars; Phil Jones, the mud and tennis expert; and so on and so on, ad infinitum.

Bits of This and That

By way of last minute roundup, we hear that Pretz Hertel and George Suman are now duly accepted and initiated members of that exclusive Ventura coterie, known as the Rest & Aspiration Club, which is so ably presided over by our Grecian friends, George Poulos and Nick Melonas, two of the grandest chaps it has ever been our good fortune to meet. There sure were a raft of oil men around town on December 31 with Bullshipper Club ties on. Guess they were scared they might run into Free Fairfield. There is nothing more embarrassing than to run into Free when you haven't got the right tie on. Makes a man feel positively naked! Bill Hochuli has coined a new expression for failure to count in dominoes or cribbage, that is, "poor pegsmanship." It is being used freely by Art White. And Henry Morgan tells a young lady correspondent that the best way to improve her posture is to sprinkle fertilizer on it and wait for rain.

FROM GLASS MAKER TO OIL WELL HEATING

Wilbur L. Heater is a quiet-spoken, well mannered chap, who over many years has hosted the top echelons of petrolic society at his home in Santa Anita Oaks with a warmth and charm that has brought him a swath of friends as wide as the blue Pacific. Bill, as he is popularly known, was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, but at the age of one, ducked out to Toledo, taking his parents with him. There he attended grammar and high schools and spent many enjoyable years canoeing about the local lakes and waterways. He began his business career with the Toledo Plate and Window Glass Company at the munificent salary of $8 a week and was in a fair way to become a fixture in the glass racket when his feet began itching again and in 1925 we find him in California doing a stint for the Socony Paint Products Company, a subsidiary of Standard of New York. It was at this time he met George Ratcliffe, a circumstance that pretty much dictated his entire future from there on. George persuaded Bill to toss in his lot with Baroid, starting as sales manager, and in the meantime he has held every important post that the firm, now Baroid Division of National Lead Company, has to offer. He retired on February 1, 1955, with the title of Pacific Coast manager, and immediately upon his retirement assumed the presidency of Oil Well Heating Systems, Inc. Bill is a bit reluctant to talk about himself but it just happens that we have discoursed with him in various rathskellers over the past 10 years and have come to know some of his joys and sorrows. We know that his life was greatly saddened not long ago by the untimely death of a macadamian nut tree that he had nursed from infancy; that he has had a real bang out of occupying the ritziest suites in the ritziest hotels in his extensive travels; that his dad is now at 91 as lively as the proverbial cricket; and that he has two lovely granddaughters, Penny and Cindy, on whom he literally dotes. In conclusion, we hope that Bill and his good lady, Denny, will enjoy the same longevity as the Heater sire and that they will be long spared to spread their beneficence among the petroleum people.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Field Development

James Slough Wildcat Works

One of the most interesting wildcat wells at present in San Joaquin Valley territory is The Texas Company's Continental-KCL No. 1 on Section 5-31s-26e in the James Slough area or one and one-half miles south of the Ten Section field. Exploration at this writing has not gone far toward objective depth below 9000 feet. Location is on a farmout from Continental Oil Company. Conoco during the fall of 1954 leased 2800 acres of wildcat ground in the area from the Kern County Land Company, with rights to 12,000 feet.

In the northwest Lost Hills area, Texaco's Overall No. 3 on Section 33-25s-20e has been completed at 2852 feet for not many barrels of oil a day.

Pyramid Hills Pool Uncovered

Some sort of a new pool discovery is credited to Franco Western Oil Corporation's Norris-Drilexco-Baylis No. 1 wildcat on Section 29-24s-18e in the Pyramid Hills area, Kings County. The well was drilled to a total depth of 1090 feet before it was plugged back to 865 feet and placed on the pump for 21 barrels of 18 gravity oil a day from the Eocene.

On Section 20-24s-18e, F. C. Griggs & Associates is preparing to get going with a wildcat well, slated for drilling to approximately 4000 feet. Location is a short distance north of Reserve Oil and Gas Company's Orchard No. 48, completed in the fall of 1953 for a discovery in the Eocene, which shortly flattened out. On the east, Norris Oil Company owns offsetting ground.

At Kettleman Hills Middle Dome, Middle Dome Corporation's No. 38-19V wildcat on Section 19-23s-19e is drilling under 9400 feet. West of Trico, Corwin Drilling Company is in the starting stage with its Corwin No. 1 test on Section 22-34s-22e.

In the Reef Ridge sector of Kings County, Lakeview California Company has given up its Avenal Land Co. No. 2 test on Section 35-23s-17e at 780 feet. As a sequel to running 5-inch casing to bottom, a test was wet.

Santiago Test Cored Siltstone

Richfield Oil's Slater No. 11-12 wildcat venture on Section 12-11n-23w in the Northeast Santiago sector of Kern County has been abandoned at 7492 feet. Drilling in the final stages was in siltstone.

Russell Ranch Pool Discovered

Richfield Oil Corporation apparently has opened a new and shallow pool in the Russell Ranch sector of Cuyama Valley. The well, Russell A No. 138-5 on Section 5-10n-27w, was completed at 1470 feet for about 24 barrels of 13.8 gravity oil, cutting 20 per cent. Open is the Santa Margarita sand, which is putting out some miles northwest of the new producer. Hoover Drilling Company was in charge of the contract work.

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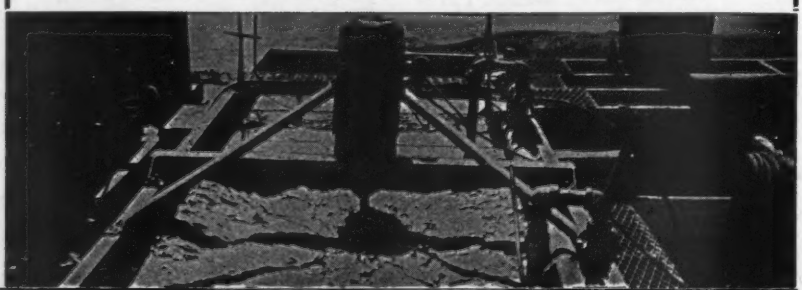

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Paloma Test Finally Relegated to History

Ohio Oil Company's KCL-A No. 72-4 deep test on Section 4-32s-26e finally and officially has been abandoned and now is only a page in history. The project, which cost more than $2,000,000, carved out a path to a world's record depth of 21,482 feet, where mechanical trouble intruded. Concluding tests uphole resulted in nothing worthwhile. In the Belgian Anticline area, Ohio Oil's F. E. Smith Government No. 5 test on Section 24-30s-21e also has gone off the board at 8063 feet.

Midway-Sunset Deep Test Digs

Oceanic Oil Company's C. W. O. D. No. D-3-7 deep test on Section 7-32s-23e in the Midway-Sunset area keeps drilling ahead a couple of thousand feet down. Plans call for testing the Middle and Lower Miocene sands in the area, which probably necessitate carrying the project to between 12,500 and 15,000 feet. The company holds a block of some 3200 acres and the well site is three and one-half miles northwest of North American Consolidated Oil Company's W. P. No. 1-28 wildcat test, which went to 10,410 feet 14 years ago without commercial success.

Shafter Gas Well Continues Testing

Tide Water Associated Oil Company, which for a couple of weeks has been running a production test on its Loepp No. 63-18 gas discovery well at Shafter, is not likely to launch followup drilling until the test is allowed to endure two weeks or so longer. The project, on Section 18-28s-25e, was shut in for a time after coming on production at the rate of 5,600,000 cubic feet of gas daily from the Etchegoin sand zone. Tide Water Associated shares interest in the play with the Capital Company and Geochemical Surveys. Miller & York, Bakersfield drilling contractor, drilled the discovery well to 4325 feet.

South Bellevue Test Drilling

Drilling is proceeding below 2500 feet with Warren L. Meeker's M. A. Q. No. 1 extension on Section 2-30s-26e in the South Bellevue area of Kern County, with Brown Drilling Company, contractor.

Blackwells Corner Wildcat Well Listed

Superior Oil Company is preparing to open work with its O. L. C. No. 8 wildcat well in Section 31-26s-19e on Occidental Land Company property at Blackwells Corner. The Blackwells Corner field, incidentally, was discovered by Harold Morton in 1941.

French Camp Wildcat Digs

In the French Camp sector of San Luis Obispo County, The Texas Company's Camatti Ranch No. 1 exploratory well continues to drill steadily ahead below 2000 feet. The drill site lies between Simmler on the Carrizo Plains and Shandon in Cholame Valley and is on Section 19-28s-16e. The contract work is being handled by B. J. & M. Drilling Company. Southwest of Shandon, Texaco has forsaken at an unproductive 4333 feet its Clarke NCT-1 No. 1 wildcat on Section 15-27s-14e. The Panorama Hills part of the county also has registered a duster. It was Cal Valley Oil Company's Jansen No. 51-S-28, which stopped digging at 4447 feet. In consideration of the 50 or 60 wildcat wells that have tried and failed in the Carrizo Plains, Leonard Whiston's Leonard No. 1 test on Section 28-31s-18e there is likely to be followed with more than ordinary interest. It is working in the preliminary stages.

Lanare Test Set In Motion

Intex Oil Company has commenced operations with its Unit A No. 1 on Section 30-17s-19e in the Lanare area, Fresno County. The project is a northwest offset job to its Benadom No. 26-29 producer, which successfully achieved a southeast extension of the Lanare field

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in the Nortonville sand from 8298 to 8316 feet. Intex owns a 50 per cent operating interest in a 1750-acre block, the scene of the play.

South of the Jacalitos field, Shell Oil's Shell-Merchant Kreyenhagen No. 86-8 wildcat on Section 8-22s-16e is an abandoned duster at 7944 feet.

Race Track Hill Wildcat Well Dry

Three locations east and one location south of a duster in the East Race Track Hill area, Standard Oil has abandoned another test. The latest project, No. 55-25 on Section 35-29s-29e, went to 5200 feet and in so doing found nothing of commercial interest. The previous test stopped at 5400 feet. At Shale Point, the company's Oil Explorers Fee No. 23-16 on Section 16-27s-19e is well below 2000 feet. Operations in recent days were delayed by a fishing job.

Edison Well Good Producer

T. & T. Oil Company's Baughman No. 1 test on Section 8-30s-29e in the Edison area appears to have lived up to expectations. The well was completed at 5800 feet and is good for several hundred barrels of clean oil a day. The Transition zone was topped at 2740, the Jewett at 5356, the Pyramid Hills at 5384 and the Vedder at 5503 feet. The 7-inch casing was set at 5750 feet. On Section 23-30s-29e, Mark Morris is ready to begin his Bill Handel No. 1 extension test.

Coalinga Test Moving Ahead

With Newton Drilling Company handling the work, W. W. Holmes & Associates' No. 62-36 on Section 36-19s-14e at Coalinga is under way. In the East Coalinga sector, James Lee Aydelott is sponsoring Jim No. 4 test on Section 24-20s-15e.

East Oxnard Test Abandoned

On Section 1-1n-22w in the East Oxnard area, Standard has pulled out at 12,070 feet from its Maulhardt Community No. 101 wildcat well. Abandonment was a sequel to a final formation test of the interval of 7391-7466 feet, which showed a recovery of mud with a scum of oil.

Moorpark Test Idle

Still idle at last reports was Petco Oil's Strathearn No. 1 wildcat on Section 6-2n-19w at Moorpark, Ventura County. Drilling has reached around 2200 feet in George Allen's Teddy No. 1 test on Section 5-1n-17w.

South Tapo Well Barren

In the South Tapo field, Union Oil Company has pulled out at 2829 feet from its Simi No. 17-7 well on Section 7-3n-17w, Ventura County. Final operations included running of electric log and dipmeter and sidewall sampling.

Montalvo Test On Drill Agenda

E. L. Doheny, Operator, is planning to drill Larbacher No. 1 test on Section 31-2n-22w near Montlavo in Ventura County. Warren Smith is manager of company operations.

Capitan Wildcat Drilling On Down

Covarrubias No. 1-51 Shell Oil Company's scheduled 12,000-foot test well on Section 32-5n-30w at Capitan in Santa Barbara County, is drilling ahead in the earlier stages, with Loffland Bros. in charge. The company has started another well in the Orcutt field, Careaga No. B-1 on Section 31-9n-33w.

Fillmore Test Preparing Start

Standard Oil of California is preparing to start its Hardison No. 2-2 wildcat venture on Section 27-4n-20w in the vicinity of Fillmore in Ventura County. It is situated about one mile northeast of the company's Sespe Ranch No. 1, a new field discovery, and some 2000 feet northwest of Hardison Ranch No. 2-1, which was taken down to a depth of 15,630 feet and then suspended. On the northeast fringe of Santa Paula, Standard is set to drill its Van De Kaar No. 1 test on Section 2-3n-21w.

Camarillo Test Will Go To Depth

Richfield Oil Corporation's Camarillo No. 1 wildcat project under way on Section 32-2n-20w in the Camarillo area of Ventura County is slated to look all formations over to 12,000 feet or thereabouts. The company is moving ahead with its development work at Timber Canyon and at last reports had a brace of drilling tools active.

General Petroleum Corp.'s Barnard No. 33 in the Ventura field being put down by California Production Service. Left to right: Richard Michl, floorman; Paul Oller, floorman; Paul Stewart, General Petroleum drilling department; J. R. Cook, head well puller; W. R. Nichols, derrick.

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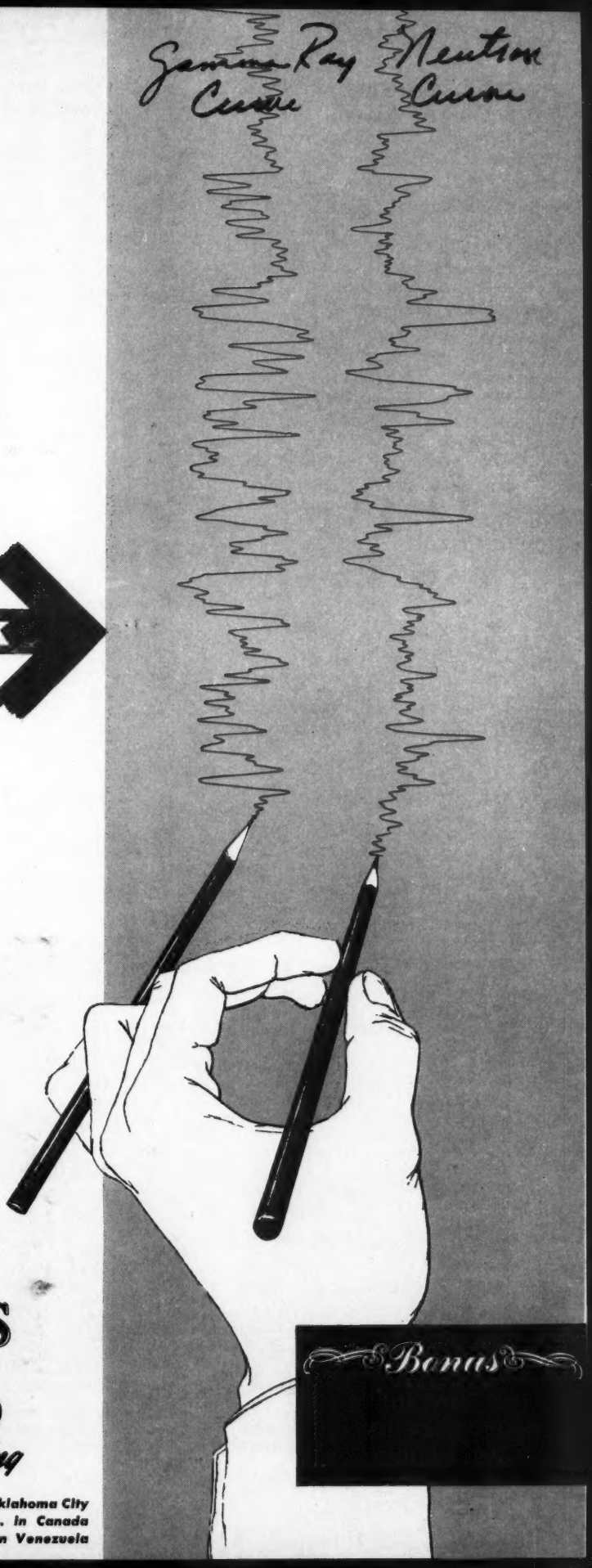

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Fault Block Find Scored At Winters

Bandini Petroleum Corporation has opened another fault block discovery on Section 1-8n-1w in the North Winters area of Yolo County. It came about by completion of the company's Griffing No. 1 wildcat at a plugged depth of 4782 feet for 5,000,000 cubic feet of gas a day through a quarter-inch bean. The drill site is about three-quarters of a mile northwest of Universal Consolidated Oil Company's Wallace No. 1 discovery, chalked up some months ago. It is generally believed, however, that the wells are in different fault blocks. The McCune sand was topped at 4710 feet and the intervals of 4712-4725 and 4729-4733 feet are opened to production. Bandini holds a half-interest in 500 acres around the well and also a seven-eights interest in an additional 700 acres. In the Jacob Corners area, Standard's Salisbury No. 1 wildcat on Section 29-10n-1e has been abandoned at 5800 feet. In the East Winters area, R. W. McBurnie and Roy Mead, Jr. are drilling at a middle point with their Putthoff No. 1 test on Section 7-8n-1e. Brown Drilling Company, who took down the North Winters discovery, is drilling the Putthoff well.

Santa Cruz Island Well Keeps Drilling

Richfield Oil Corporation is drilling well below 4000 feet with its interesting exploratory well on Santa Cruz Island, 22 miles off Santa Barbara. Coastal Drilling Company is doing the drilling chores on contract. No wells have ever before been taken down on the island.

New Field Added In Ventura County

A new field has been added in Ventura County. It was achieved by Sunray Oil Corporation and its Sunray-Ohio-Bailard-McGrath No. 1, which at last reports was putting out about 120 barrels of oil a day from a plugged depth of 12,110 feet. Drilled to a total bottom of 13,462 feet, the new producer is one and one-half miles east of the West Montalvo field. It is on a 2000-acre lease block in which Sunray divides interest with Ohio Oil Company. Perforated is the interval of 11,765-11,785 feet in the Sespe formation. Sun Drilling Company as contractor did the work. Standard at West Montalvo has completed its State No. C-3 on Section 35-2n-23w at a plugged depth of 14,000 feet for 406 barrels of oil and 119,000 cubic feet of gas a day. It was carried first to 14,800 feet.

Ojai Wildcat Ready To Drill

Joseph M. Gross is all set to drill his Carlson No. 1 wildcat test on Section 24-4n-22w in the Ojai area of Ventura County. Location is no great distance north and west of the old Madison well, which back in 1941 for a time pumped mostly water from 2265 feet.

Shell Oil Company's Edison No. 46 being drilled in the Ventura field with San Joaquin Drilling Company putting down the hole. Left to right: Harry Arnett, driller; C. R. Hill, cathead; W. F. Hames, racker; Walter Loyd, derrick.

Elwood Test Written Off

Natural Resources Investment Corporation's Rutherford No. 1 prospect job on Section 31-5n-29w near Elwood in Santa Barbara County has been abandoned at 2362 feet.

Willows Wildcat Production Failure

Having cored basement, Humble Oil & Refining Company's H. C. Fredericksen No. 1 wildcat well on Section 16-20n-3w in the Willows area of Glenn County has been given up at 12,755 feet. Location of the explorer, one of the deepest tests ever taken down in Northern California, was a few miles north of Willows.

Sutter County Test Under Way

Southeast of Boyer in Sutter County, Elmo W. Adams is under way with his West Robins Community No. 1 exploratory well on Section 16-12n-2e.

West of Red Bluff in Tehama County, General Petroleum Corporation is at an intermediate drilling stage with its Monterey-Callaghan No. 1 wildcat on Section 22-27n-4w. The project is aimed for Cretaceous production around 8000 feet.

Tar Springs Area Getting New Test

Some months ago Nelson B. Hunt put down a wildcat well in the Tar Springs area of San Luis Obispo County to a depth approximating 10,000 feet and got shows but not of the commercial variety. Spurred by the promise indicated by the well, Intex Oil Company is drilling in the relatively shallower formations with its Tar Springs No. 2 on Section 25-32s-14e. The drill site, like the previous test, is no more than eight miles east of the Arroyo Grande field.

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Huntington Beach Operations Growing

The focal point of operating interest in Southern California centers at Huntington Beach, where the so called "hot spot" is actively expanding in all directions. Recent completions in that sector include the C. D. Cunningham, Operator, Hunnicut No. 1, in from 3940 feet for an initial yield of 1300 barrels of 20.6 gravity oil a day through a 32/64-inch orifice, Holly Development Company's Holly-Rex-Bradley No. 1 for 690 barrels of 20 gravity oil from 3950 feet, and Cather, Barnes & Cree's Fraser No. 1 for 840 barrels from a comparable depth. More than a dozen rigs are running at present in the "hot spot," which is several hundred feet from the Huntington Beach pier. Moreover, all signs indicate that within a matter of weeks twice as many outfits will be working. The greater part of the land in the sector is subdivided into 50-foot lots and in some instances even smaller. Present drilling activities are immediately south of the center of Huntington Beach and along the ocean strand. Some say that the oil pool will lean toward the middle of the town itself.

Airport Field Adds Production

Hancock Oil, General Petroleum and Union Oil have clicked with another well in the Long Beach Airport field. Their Signal No. 56 on Section 19-4s-12w, the combine's fifth well in the area, started off at the rate of 1893 barrels of 32 gravity oil a day from 8500 feet. Casing pressure was given as 1400 pounds and tubing pressure 350 pounds. The drill site is near 33rd and Walnut streets, with the well putting out from the interval from 7097 feet to 8500 feet.

Cascade-Aliso Well Producing

C. W. Teater's followup project to his Cascade-Aliso discovery at last reports was putting out at the rate of 120 barrels of 22 gravity oil daily from a plugged depth of 2961 feet. Known as Teater-Wadley No. 2 and located on Section 25-3n-16w, the well went to 3185 feet before plugging back for tests. Teater, who came to California from Michigan a few years ago, long was a leading oil producer in the Wolverine State. His work in Michigan accounted for about 60 producing wells. Margaret V. Kahler, who a month or two ago drilled and placed on production seven wells at Morales Canyon in Cuyama Valley, is planning a test in the Cascade-Aliso area on Section 24-3n-16w or approximately one mile north of the Teater discovery well.

West Coyote Project Digs

In the West Coyote area, where oil was first developed in 1939 by Murphy Oil Company, General Exploration Company is drilling at an intermediate stage with its Emery No. 1 wildcat test on Section 24-3s-11w, Orange County. Thomas P. Pike Drilling Company is guiding the well to its 10,000-foot destiny.

Standard's deep test at Buena Park, Pacific Community No. 1 near Artesia and Grand avenues on Section 26-3s-11w is making hole ahead around 8000 feet.

Playa Del Rey Wildcat Works

A fishing job around 6260 feet somewhat delayed the drilling to objective depth of Edwin W. Pauley and Donald Frankel's Hughes No. 1 wildcat test on Section 22-2s-15w, Los Angeles County. Location is a short distance from a well taken down two years ago by Bolsa Chica Oil Corporation. The earlier test was carried originally to 7474 feet, plugged back to 6916 feet and then redrilled to 7423 feet. Showings and a yield of 60 barrels of oil daily for a time were a factor bringing about launching of the current test.

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Sansinena Test Digs

Union Oil Company is moving ahead above objective level with its Sansinena No. 12-G-1 test on Section 31-2s-10w in the Sansinena area. The company's Hellman No. 67 test on Section 27-3s-13w at Wilmington boulevard and Victoria street in Dominguez area is drilling at 4400 feet.

Newhall-Placerita Well Drilling Ahead

The George D. Rowan, Operator, Phillips No. 12 wildcat on Section 6-3n-15w in the Newhall-Placerita field is making hole slightly above 1000 feet. Other activity in the field, includes Stine, Sabasta & Ragel's U.S. Oil Scouts Exploration Co. No. 6 on Section 1-3n-16w. The latter is in an early-stage of operations.

San Fernando Wildcat Fails

On a block of 1200 acres farmed out by The Texas Company in the San Fernando area, Verda No. 1-35 wildcat well on Section 35-3n-15w has been abandoned at 6210 feet by Harry C. Long, Operator. The project evidently failed to pick up shows to bottom.

San Bernardino Wildcats Working

In the East Hesperia area of San Bernardino County, Ord Oil Company's Ord No. 1 explorer on Section 9-4n-3w continues to drill steadily ahead above 3000 feet. Near Adelanto, Adelanto Development Corporation has reached a depth around 3600 feet with its Adelanto Oil Well No. 1 on Section 7-8n-5w. Contract work on the Adelanto venture is being handled by Scott Drilling Company.

Whittier Test Quits At 4572 Ft.

Western Gulf Oil Company's Raney No. 1 test close to the intersection of Workman Mill road and Walnut street on Section 8-2s-11w in the Whittier Narrows sector has been abandoned at 4572 feet.

Rocky Mountain NEWS

Colorado—Idaho—Montana—New Mexico—Utah—Wyoming—Western Canada

General

The executive committee of the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association has withdrawn RMOGA's sponsorship of market demand proration laws in Colorado and Wyoming. The withdrawal followed a special general membership meeting in Denver early in January. The general membership voted in favor of continued support for market demand proration laws in Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska. The vote was very close and the executive committee the following day decided to seek field proration by maximum efficient rates, a move which would have more industry support behind it.

A group of Rocky Mountain independents formed a committee within RMOGA to oppose its market demand sponsorship. R. S. Shannon, Jr., Denver, was the committee chairman and a principal spokesman for the group at the special meeting.

In Wyoming a market demand proration bill may be introduced without RMOGA sponsorship.

Market demand proration has been a growing issue in Wyoming and Colorado since last June when RMOGA's executive committee voted, in a surprise move, to press for such legislation. Since then the regional industry association has drafted a conservation bill whose key feature was market demand. The bill was discussed at two public meetings in Wyoming. There was some opposition expressed at Newcastle, operating headquarters for the host of independent operators in the Clareton fields of Weston County but none expressed at an industry meeting in Casper.

The well-organized and determined opposition which developed after these meetings was something of a surprise.

Canada

Imperial Oils Ltd. will expend some nine million dollars in exploration of 2,500,000 acres in northeastern British Columbia under an exploration arrangement now being completed. The principals, Imperial Oils, Pacific Petroleums Ltd., Canadian Atlantic Oil Co., Peace River Natural Gas Co. Ltd. and Run Sunray Oil Corp., have signed a letter of intent and are now discussing the details. By drilling five deep tests and other shallow tests Imperial will earn varying interests. Pacific Petroleums will have charge of the sale of the natural gas and Imperial of the oil.

Three American companies have joined to drill a 13,000 foot test to the granite in the Smoky River area of northwestern Alberta. Richfield Oil Corp., Canada Cities Service Petroleum Corp. and Sinclair Canada Oil Co. will be the principals in the test 52 miles southwest of Devonian production at Sturgeon Lake. The three companies will divide equally a net stake of 75 per cent in the well. The Scurry-Rainbow interests will be carried for 25 per cent.

Trans-Canada Pipelines Ltd. has been granted a four-month extension of the time in which to offer proof of satisfactory financing arrangements for constructing the 2,200 mile natural gas line from Alberta to eastern Canada. Trans-Canada has requested the extension

Johnston Stainless Welding Rods

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to April 30 for completing the $300,000,000 financing job because it has encountered delays in completing purchasing and sales contracts. Gas producers in Alberta have balked at the 14 cents which Trans Canada maintains is all it can pay per thousand and keep the gas competitive to other fuels in eastern Canada.

In four years the Alberta crude producing potential has nearly doubled. In December 1950 the prairie province possessed a daily potential of 189,263 barrels. In four years the potential has increased 92 per cent to 364,792 barrels where it stood in December 1954. Last December's production averaged 276,866 barrels a day with a new record established in the week ending December 20 when Alberta wells produced 301,451 barrels per day. The previous daily record was set by a week in August when the production pulsed at 295,623 barrels per day.

Four of the best porous zones of a 1000-foot of the Rundle limestone have tested a combined flow of 51,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day at the Husky Oil and Refining Ltd.'s Savanna Creek discovery. A test of the lowest of the four most porous zones flowed 4,380,000 cubic feet of gas per day. The lowest zone tested was in the inclusive interval 8040-8155 feet. The discovery is located on a 68,000 acre crown block 25 miles southwest of Turner Valley and 60 miles southwest of Calgary. Major interests in the well and block are held by Husky, Northern Natural Gas Producing Co. and Phillips Petroleum Co. Only the best porous zones of the 1000-foot section were tested.

North Dakota

Carter Oil Co. has recovered free oil without water at a Tioga field extension, Burke County. DS Drill stem test 8016-8076 feet recovered 1570 feet at No. 1 Torgerson, half mile northeast off-set to Warren Petroleum's No. 1 Hoiby on the north edge of Tioga. Carter is running casing.

After recoveries on two drill stem tests at No. 1 McGinnity, northeast off-set to the Western Nodana and Rutledge No. 1 Westberg Pure Oil is preparing to acidize. The well is in the McGregor field of Williams County.

Ward-Williston has completed the fifth and best well in the North Westhope field, Bottineau County. The No. 3 State-A flowed 384 barrels oil per day from the Charles logged at 3218 feet. Ward-Williston will drill south and east offsets in the near future. First Bottineau County production was established in 1953. There have been four small pools discovered since on the east side of the Williston Basin. This completion and tests at Deep Rock Oil Co.'s No. 1 Clarke will probably give substantial encouragement to east side exploration where a sizable number of dry holes was drilled in 1954.

Montana

Texas Co. has recovered oil from an upper Heath zone at No. 1 Red Wing Potteries, three-quarters of a mile east of nearest production at Northwest Sumatra, Rosebud County active field. There is a dry hole between the test and the field. In a test of the interval 4893-4935 feet 4935 feet of 32.3 gravity oil was recovered. There have been numerous west and east extensions at this field. Currently there are four wells being completed, one testing and one location staked in addition to the Texas No. 1 Red Wing.

The Texas Co. has announced that it has begun taking 100 per cent of production at Cut Bank and Darling pools where proration has been in effect. The new purchases will be based on quantity purchased in June 1954. Phillips Petroleum Co. is expected to follow the Texas lead in the Cut Bank and Darling pools. It will probably maintain its purchases in Pondera field at 55 per cent of production.

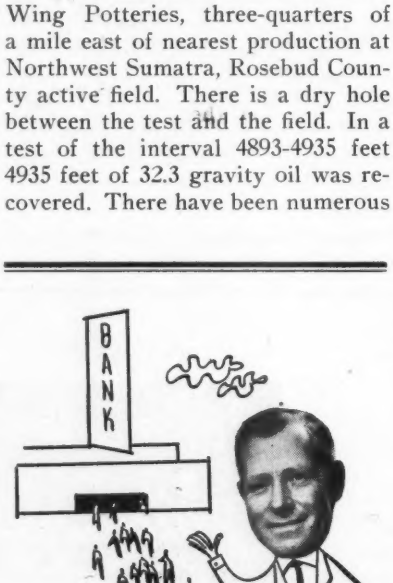
A fifth test in the Pumpkin Butte area of Powder River County where the No. 1 Allen was completed at 15,500,000 cubic feet per day gas discovery has been announced by George J. Greer, Trustee. The discovery touched off a land play in the northeast Powder River Basin which had not had significant shows before the discovery. No. 3 UP is staked one and one-half miles south of the discovery. George J. Greer, Trustee has drilled one gas well two miles north of the discovery and two dry holes to the west and northwest.

A bonus bid of $512 per acre, the highest ever bid for Fort Peck Indian reservation acreage, was offered for an 80-acre tract. Harry M. Dickey, Williston, N. D., paid the record bid on the tract which carries a 30-day drilling commitment.

Small shows in limestone cores have been reported for the first test of the Whitetail structure, Daniels County. Richfield Oil Corp. ran drill stem tests at No. 1 Modac after coring but recovered only water cut mud with no shows. The test will be drilled ahead on acreage farmed out by Carter Oil Co.

South Dakota

Good to fair oil shows have been reported by Shell Oil Co. at No. 1 McCrone, Stanley County. The formation in the interval 2687-2720 where the core recovered anhydrite ande dolomite has not been identified. The shows were in the interval 2710-11 feet. Shell cut 20 continuous cores from 2572-3210 feet and is now drilling below 3304 feet. Shell established the first commer-



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cial production in South Dakota just about one year ago. There have been no discoveries in the state since.

Wyoming

Goshen County in southeastern Wyoming is preparing to be placed on the long list of Wyoming oil producing counties. F. R. Anderson's No. 24-D-33, on the municipal airport five miles south of Torrington has recovered oil and water in the J sand. If a successful completion is made, it will not only be the first producer in Goshen County but the first Wyoming producer in the Wyoming portion of the Denver Julesburg Basin since the basin became one of the most active centers of Rocky Mountain exploration two years ago. The J sand interval 6914-6940 feet tested 265 feet of 42 gravity green oil and 270 feet water. Casing has been run to 6920 feet.

A gas flow of 1,500,000 cubic feet per day has been reported for a test on one of the largest structures in the Rocky Mountains. El Paso Natural Gas Co.—Continental Oil Co.—Malco Refineries Co.'s No. 1 Pinedale Unit, Sublette County, flowed at the rate from an unidentified formation, possibly the Fort Union perforated 9920-32 and 9950-9982 feet. Operators will perforate and test other zones. Total depth is 10,410 feet.

Colorado

Sinclair Oil and Gas Co. is installing pump at No. 1 Bradbury, first apparent discovery in Elbert County and a 30-mile southwestward extension of Denver Julesburg Basin production. Sinclair has swabbed six barrels of oil and five barrels of acid water an hour on a 12-hour swab test.

Shell Oil Co. has recorded the first official discovery in Colorado in 1955 reporting a gas flow of 2,250,000 cubic feet per day at No. A State, Logan County. Production was established in the Muddy interval 4225-4230 feet. The field has been designated Coyote.

Lewis Exploration has taken over No. 1 Dutto and Marchisio, Las Animas County, from Bruce Sullivan and Jay Taylor. The new operators will run casing to test after recovery of 75 feet of heavily oil cut mud from the interval 3338-3410 feet. The test is in the northern Raton Basin where Lewis Exploration has been active during the past two years.

Continental Oil Co.'s new gas extraction plant, capable of processing 10,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day will begin operations in mid-January. It is located 20 miles south of Brush. Its 70,000 gallons of products a day will replace in part the curtailed production of Continental's gasoline plant at Lance Creek, Wyo. The plant which has processed gas from the basal Sundance for 17 years will be curtailed because of a water flood in that sand.

At Morrison, southwest of Denver, S. D. Johnson has taken over complete operation at No. 1 Pallaora. The rotary has been moved off and tests will continue after a treater is installed. The rank wildcat recovered 6500 feet of oil in an unidentified limestone at this wildcat drilled against the mountain front 15 miles southwest of Denver.

A production restriction of 125 barrels per day of oil and 150,000 cubic feet of gas has been placed on the Adena field of Morgan County. The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission ordered the production restriction in both the D and J sands. The order is effective for six months.

In Weld County, Nebraska Drillers have run casing at No. 1 Nay, considered an apparent discovery in an unidentified formation which may be a new pay in the Denver Julesburg Basin. The operators have not confirmed reports that the tests also had good shows in the J sand.

Utah

A 2180 foot recovery of 43 gravity oil has been recorded for King Oil Co.'s No. 2 Unit, Big Flat, Grand County. The wildcat is 12 miles west of Moab. Total depth of 7849 feet has been reached and operators are swabbing. The well blew out in the Paradox below 4300 feet and the hole was whipstocked when drilling resumed.

Shell Oil Co. is continuing its exploration of southeastern Utah with location of another test ten miles southeast of its recent Paradox discovery at No. 2 Desert Creek Unit, San Juan County. The newest test is No. 1 North Boundary Butte. Shell has been very active in this area along the Arizona Utah border. It holds very extensive Navajo Indian acreage.

Permanente Cement Declares Dividends

Permanente Cement Company directors declared a quarterly dividend of 20 cents a share, and at the same time declared an extra year-end dividend of 12½ cents a share. Both dividends payable on January 31, 1955, to stockholders of record January 14, 1955.

Payment of these dividends will bring the total per share for the fiscal year ending January 31, 1955, to 90 cents, compared with 77½ cents last year. For purposes of comparison, dividends for both years are figured on the basis of 2,800,000 shares of stock presently outstanding.

The Board elected Edgar F. Kaiser as a vice president of the company.

Henry J. Kaiser, chairman of the board, announced that the Permanente Cement plant has been operated at 100 per cent of rated capacity for the entire year, and said that indications for 1955 are equally promising.

He stated that the Redwood City and Long Beach plants of Kaiser Gypsum Company, Inc., Permanente's wholly-owned subsidiary, had produced well above rated capacity throughout the year. Kaiser Gypsum's new Seattle plant, which began operations on September 17, last, started a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week schedule three weeks after the opening—several months ahead of the time anticipated for 'round the clock operations, Mr. Kaiser said.

Kaiser Gypsum is completing a $200,000 improvement of existing facilities at its San Marcos Island gypsum quarries, which will further increase efficiency.

Anytime one glances at Wirt Headly, General Petroleum Corporation executive, President Eisenhower comes to mind for the resemblance between the two men is striking. Headly explains to the curious there is not the slightest relationship.

With Drilling Contractors

With contractors and other members of the oil fraternity thoroughly cognizant of the importance of retaining the percentage depletion deduction in its present form, words on the subject by President Reese H. Taylor of Union Oil Company are timely in view of attacks planned by certain groups on the allowance in 1955.

Characterizing the deduction granted producers of oil and gas for the purpose of computing income subject to Federal income tax as the most important single factor affecting those engaged in the hazardous business of searching for oil, Taylor said:

"Yet, it is without a doubt the least understood, both inside and outside the oil industry, and the most maligned subject bearing on the industry's production operations."

Congress only has authority under the Constitution, as set forth in the 16th Amendment to tax income, Taylor reminded in his regular monthly letter to company employees.

Pointing out that Congress does not have the right to tax capital, and oil or gas in the ground are capital assets, Taylor said as a result under the early tax laws oil producers were allowed to place values upon such underground assets and these values were exempt from tax.

He explained, however, that this procedure proved to be cumbersome and extremely difficult to administer, as it was practically impossible to currently reflect values that were dependent in a large measure on future developments.

Therefore, he said, following extensive studies of the many and related considerations, Congress determined in 1926 that approximately the same capital asset recovery would be obtained by an allowance equivalent to 27½ per cent of gross receipts from the sale of oil and gas, with the proviso that such exemption could never exceed 50 per cent of net income derived from the oil and gas sales. Congress since then has in effect countless times reaffirmed the validity and soundness of the deduction.

Cited as of particular interest was the fact that the limitation on percentage depletion has an important effect, probably much greater than originally contemplated. The U.S. Treasury recently reported that in 1951 the percentage depletion deduction of 3774 producers of oil and gas averaged only 11.17 per cent of gross receipts from production, less than one-half of the maximum provided for.

Although the principle and allowable amount of percentage depletion is sound and the amount obtained actually low, those attacking the deduction continue to talk of "windfalls," Taylor made known that it was decided to explore this situation in relation to the company's experience, which reason dictates is logically representative in the oil industry.

Describing the results as quite revealing, Taylor said:

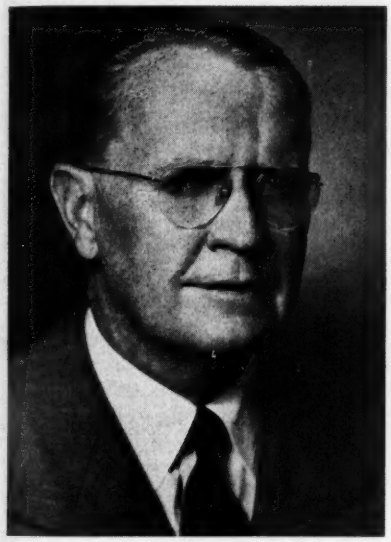
"We compared our so-called 'tax savings' resulted from the use of percentage depletion for the past 10 years with the net cost to the company of its unsuccessful exploratory expenditures. This included the cost of wells that were drilled and proved dry, cost of land that was leased and abandoned as non-oil bearing and cost of geological and geophysical work that was unsuccessful in finding oil. Instead of a 'windfall,' we found the net cost of this unproductive exploration activity exceeded the capital value recovered through percentage depletion. Clearly then without depletion, the search for new oil and gas sources would have been severely curtailed and the nation's economic and national defense outlook materially worsened. Consumers would have had to pay materially higher prices for petroleum products."

As the years pass the obvious tendency is to drill wells deeper in the widening search for new petroleum beds and the year current will prove no exception in this direction. The contract drilling branch of the oil industry foresees initiation and continuation of deeper work in many areas of the state. There are instances in San Joaquin Valley where digging to the lower formations is a "must" because of lease commitments made years ago, when 10,000 and 12,000-foot holes were considered reaching far down, but which eventually called for going to depths yet untried in the future. A few years ago, Northern California wells were never known for depth. However, in the past six months, to name a couple, General Petroleum Corporation took its Glide-Court No. 1 in Yolo County to 13,321 feet, and Humble Oil & Refining Company its Fredericksen No. 1 in Glenn County, to 12,755 feet. Both of these wildcats were dusters but they do reflect what may be expected in the field as the months roll by. Standard Oil Company's McGrath No. 5 at Montalvo was taken down on contract to 15,539 feet. The company's State No. C-3, also a contract job, was carried to 14,800 feet and then subsequently plugged back to 14,000 feet. Both wells are producing. Oxnard area wells stress depth as do holes already taken down in many Ventura County fields. West of Wasco in the Semitropic area, deeper drilling is in sight as at Midway-Sunset, Ten Section and in other Kern County sectors. If mechanical trouble had not arisen when Ohio Oil Company was at 21,482 feet with its deep test in the Paloma field, there is no telling how much farther on down the project could have gone.

Personalities IN THE NEWS

Simpson Elected Vice-Pres. of General Petroleum

Thomas P. Simpson has been elected Vice President and Director of Manufacturing, it was announced recently by R. L. Minckler, president of the General Petroleum Corporation.



Thomas P. Simpson

Simpson joined the company as a chemical engineer in 1924 soon after his graduation from the California Institute of Technology. In 1935 he was transferred to the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, Inc., of which General Petroleum is the western affiliate, as chief development engineer of the Socony-Vacuum Laboratories. He became Director, Research and Development Department, of Socony-Vacuum in 1947, with headquarters in Paulsboro, New Jersey.

Upon his return to General Petroleum in August, 1953, he became Assistant Director of Manufacturing, from which post he has now been promoted.

Among Simpson's industry memberships are the American Chemical Society, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, American Institute for the Advancement of Science, and the American Petroleum Institute.

Simpson succeeds Gale L. Adams, who retired December 31st.

A better than average golfer (he shoots in the middle 70's), he is also adept with the pen having written some 20 scientific articles dealing with refining processes.

Simpson is a native of Southern California, as are his wife and two sons.

George Perry Transferred to Utah

Crane Co. has announced the appointment of Mr. George C. Perry as manager of its branch in Salt Lake City, effective January 1, 1955. He succeeds Mr. J. T. Young, Jr.

Mr. Perry's association with the company began in 1926 at its Los Angeles branch. A year later he was transferred to San Bernardino, was assigned a sales territory in 1930 and became manager there in 1938, a position he held until 1951 when he was named manager at Los Angeles.

George C. Perry

Ternes Advances At Kaiser Steel

Joseph J. Ternes has been appointed assistant to the director of public relations and will be in charge of Kaiser Steel Corporation's Los Angeles public relations office, it was announced by A. P. Heiner, vice president in charge of public relations and traffic.

Joseph J. Ternes

Ternes will represent Earl S. Reynolds, director of public relations for Southern California, and will occupy offices adjacent to existing Los Angeles sales offices in the General Petroleum Building.

Ternes joined Kaiser Steel in 1953 as administrative assistant, public relations and advertising. Before that he was with the Oakland Tribune for twelve years, last serving as circulation manager.

A past president of the Oakland Junior Chamber of Commerce, Ternes has held executive posts in the Oakland Inter-Service Club Council, the Civic Affairs Committee, the Trade Club, the Oakland Chamber of Commerce and the California State Junior Chamber of Commerce. He is

a member of the Press and Union League Club of San Francisco and several other organizations.

Ternes is a graduate of the University of California. He and his wife, Alice, and four children will live in the Los Angeles area.

Behrens Joins Richfield Oil

Fred B. Behrens has joined Richfield Oil Corporation as staff assistant to David E. Day, vice president and manager of the Manufacturing and Pipe Line Department.

Fred B. Behrens

Mr. Behrens, formerly vice president of Wilshire Oil Company, Inc,. will have special assignments on supply and distribution of crude oil and refined products, it was announced.

Widely known in the petroleum industry, Mr. Behrens has been associated with refining operations for more than 25 years. He was graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry in 1928.

In September of that year, he joined Universal Oil Products Company, doing laboratory experimental work and serving as field representative in the service department. He transferred to the Wilshire Oil Company in 1936 as assistant refinery superintendent and was promoted to vice president in charge of manufacturing in December, 1951.

He has served on the General Committee of the Division of Refining, American Petroleum Institute, and on other industry committees and was a member of the Santa Fe Springs Waste Water Board of Directors.

Fulham Joins General Petroleum

Edward T. Fulham has been appointed public relations representative it was announced recently by W. B. Curtis, manager of General Petroleum Corporation's public relations department.

Fulham's assignment will include supervision of the company's film library and speakers' panel activities.

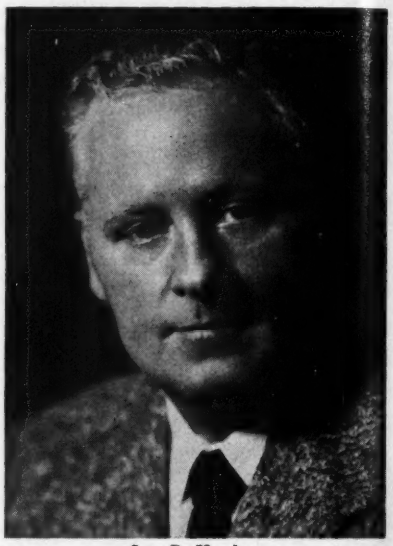
A veteran of World War II, Fulham served 32 months on a destroyer during which time his duties were gunnery officer, anti-submarine warfare officer, and ship's public relations officer. He was discharged with the rank of lieutenant.

Since his graduation from the University of Notre Dame school of journalism, Fulham has covered many assignments for newspapers in both northern and southern California. He comes to General Petroleum from Western Oil and Gas Association where he served as public relations field representative handling numerous activities of the Oil Information Committee on the Pacific Coast. Immediately prior to his association with WOGA Fulham held the post of assistant to the director of public relations at Chase National Bank in New York City.

Edward T. Fulham

Hughes Advances At Lane-Wells

Jas. D. Hughes, general sales manager and a director of Lane-Wells Company, has been made a vice-president of that internationally known technical oil-field service organization, according to John J. Neale, president.



Jas. D. Hughes

Mr. Hughes is also vice-president and director of Lane-Wells Canadian Company and a director of Well Surveys, Inc. of Tulsa. He joined Lane-Wells Company in 1941 and was Gulf Coast division sales manager in Houston. He was transferred to Los Angeles in 1945 as sales manager and later was made general sales manager and director. He is a director and 2nd vice-president of the Sales Executives Club of Los Angeles and a regional director of National Sales Executives, Inc., a member of the A.I.M.E., A.P.I., Petroleum Production Pioneers, Jonathan Club and Petroleum Club of Los Angeles. He is a past president of the Los Angeles Chapter of Nomads.

New officers of the Southern California Asphalt Plant Association, include Jack Osborn, president; and James Le Sage, vice president. Ray Best is outgoing president.

James H. Kindel Jr., David E. Agnew and Frederick R. McBrien have organized the Burns Tool Company at Bell. The new company deals primarily in oil field equipment.

Pyles Boys Camp Given Xmas Present

The oil industry of Southern California gave a Christmas present to the youth of California on December 23.

The gift took the form of $6,841 collected from 73 different contributors and donated to the R. M. Pyles Boys Camp of California. Formal presentation of the funds was made on the "Shell Newsreel" program on December 23 over Los Angeles television station KTLA. Mr. S. F. Bowlby, Vice President of the Shell Oil Co., made the presentation on behalf of the various donors to R. M. Pyles, founder of the camp. Newscaster Gil Martyn interviewed Pyles on the subject of how this camp, supported solely by members of the oil industry, is helping the youth of the State.

S. F. Bowlby (left) presents checks totaling $6,841 to R. M. Pyles (center) to aid in operating the R. M. Pyles Boys Camp during the coming year. TV newscaster Gil Martyn, on whose program the presentation was made, is shown at the right.

Built by volunteer labor a few years ago, the camp has the aim of providing free vacations in the High Sierras to boys who would not otherwise be able to afford such a trip. Hundreds of boys from crowded cities are guests at the camp every summer. While there, they enjoy many forms of outdoor sports as well as the opportunity to become acquainted with the benefits of nature in the High Sierras. The emphasis in all activities is on building good character and citizenship.

Again in 1955, thanks in part to the oil industry's "Christmas gift," more boys will be able to visit this unique camp . . . a living tribute to the men and women of the petroleum industry.

Chairman Announced by San Francisco D & D Club

Marnie Douglas, 1955 president of Desk and Derrick Club of San Francisco, has announced selection of chairmen for the club's standing committees.

Pat Clark, Union Oil Company, is appointed chairman of the program committee; Barbara Sage, Honolulu Oil Corp., membership; Rae Hasfjord, Tide Water Associated Oil Company, publicity; and Leone Zander, Shell Chemical Corp., will head up the club's by-laws committee.

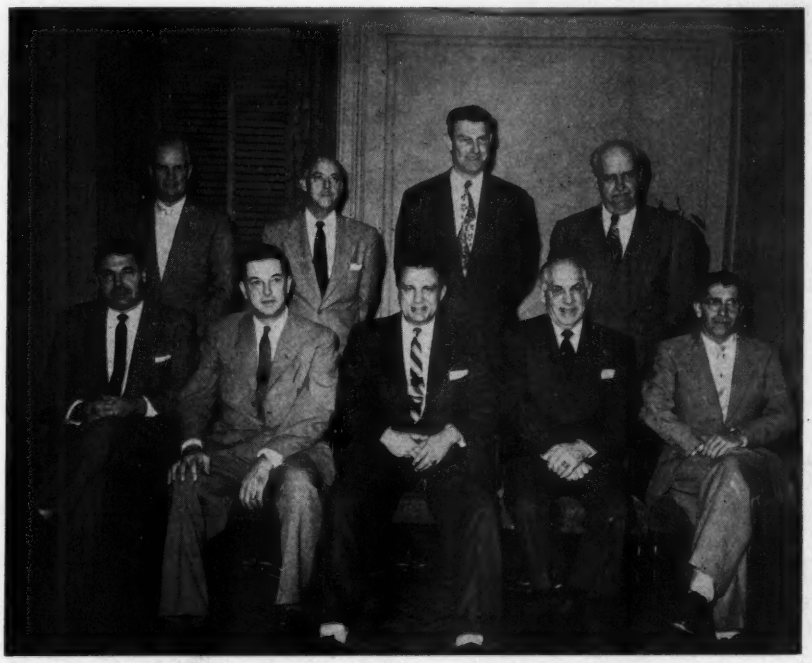
Shirley Baxter, American Bitumuls & Asphalt Company, is in charge of selecting the 1955 meeting rooms, and Margaret Wilson of Tide Water Associated will handle reservations.

Reception was assigned to Jacqueline Abbott of Honolulu Oil; and Marie Bertoglio, Standard Oil Company, will edit the club's monthly publication, Golden Gate Guywire.

Kenneth E. Kingman, Union Oil Company vice president in charge of manufacturing, was the principal speaker at the recent meeting of the Taft chapter, California Natural Gasoline Association at the Bakersfield Inn at Bakersfield. With Union Oil since 1929, Kingman discussed "How a Refiner Looks at Natural Gasoline."

Last rites for George Moore Waller, 76, of Taft, a retired Standard Oil Company employee, were held in Taft, with the master of the Libertas Masonic Lodge in Bakersfield, assisted by Midway Lodge officials in charge. Waller came to the West Side in 1913, went to Bakersfield in 1923 and moved back to Taft in 1953.

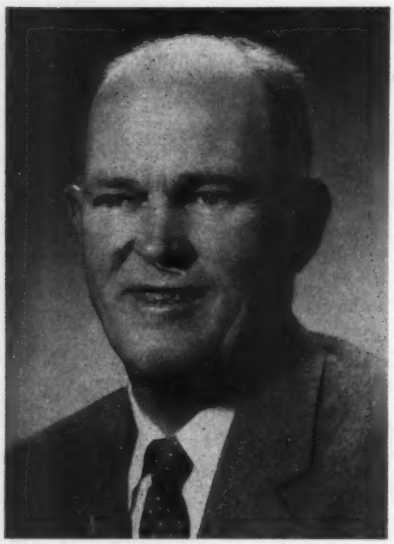
Oil Man Bill Keck of Superior Oil Company at Los Angeles took his own trailer and horses down to La Quinta on his recent desert sojourn in order that the steeds be just right for riding.



The old and new officers of the Los Angeles Chapter of Nomads at the annual business meeting held January 12, 1955. Left to right (seated): Ox Morgan of Falcon Products, Inc., Sergeant-at-Arms 1954; John Flanagan of Johnston Testers, Inc., President 1954 and Regent 1955; Joe Schlarb of Chiksan Company, Vice President 1954 and President 1955; Leo Cypher of Baash-Ross Tool Company, Treasurer 1954 and 1955; Knight Templeton of S. R. Bowen Company, Assistant Secretary 1955; (standing) Harry Taylor of Bettis Rubber Company, Assistant Treasurer 1955; Harry Hester of McCullough Tool Company, Secretary 1954 and Vice President 1955; Bob Gaylord of Wagner-Morehouse, Inc., Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms 1954 and Sergeant-at-Arms 1955; Pop Atkins of Emsco Mfg. Company, Assistant Secretary 1954 and Secretary 1955. Not shown Earl Tavan of Ken Corporation, Assistant Treasurer 1954; Rex Collins of Hydril Company, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms 1955; and Jim Hughes of Lane-Wells Company, Regent 1954 and 1955.

M. W. (Monk) Cook Joins Chiksan

M. W. (Monk) Cook has been appointed a Field Engineer for Chiksan Company, it has been announced by G. R. Winder, Vice President & General Sales Manager. He will cover the petroleum drilling, production and marketing industry throughout Southern California.



M. W. Cook

Monk Cook comes to Chiksan with a background of over 35 years in the oil industry. He started as a roughneck in 1919 at Taft, California. From that time to 1938 he roughnecked, dressed tools, drilled, and pushed tools for numerous contractors in California, Texas and Oklahoma.

In 1939 he went to Syria and Iraq as a cementing engineer and ran formation tests. He finished plugging a majority of the oilwells in the Mosul, Iraq area a few days before the declaration of war in 1939.

Returning to the United States, Mr. Cook became District Manager in the Los Angeles basin for International Cementers for seven years. He then represented Chiksan Company and other equipment companies in the Near and Middle East, with headquarters in Basra, Iraq. During the past three years he was associated with Great Lakes Corporation's Perlite Division, promoting the use of Perlite in oilwell cementing and conditions of lost circulation.

Mr. Cook is a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of Nomads, and of the Petroleum Production Pioneers. In his present capacity, he will work out of the Brea, California office of Chiksan Company.

In Memory

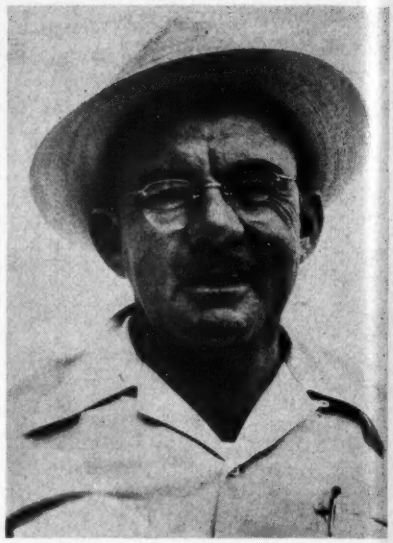
Jack R. Herley, prominent Southern California oil producer, drilling contractor, and equipment man, passed away December 23, 1954 in Rochester, Minnesota, after a surgical operation.

He was owner of the Herley Pipe and Supply Company, Jack Herley Operations, partner in Herley-Kelley Oil Operations, president of the Western States Drilling Company, Wilmington Oil Development Company, and vice-president of the International Drilling Company, all of Long Beach. Additionally, he was chairman of the Board of the Western Oilfields Supply Company of Bakersfield.

Mr. Herley was born November 2, 1896, in Crossingville, Pa. Two of his first jobs were as a machinist's apprentice at Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. and B & O Railroad in Pittsburgh. During this time he attended night school at Carnegie Tech. He worked for many railroad shops across the country, continually increasing his reputation as a machinist of considerable skill, and found his talents in great demand as an oilfield machinist in the early days of Signal Hill.

Mr. Herley's entry in the oilfield equipment business was through the B & B Pipe Shop in Long Beach, where he was a stockholder and salesman. In 1925 he established his own supply business, the Herley Pipe and Supply Company.

Each ensuing enterprise was a success. In partnership with Paul L. Kelley, Herley-Kelley Oil Operations was founded. As president of that company. Mr. Herley became one of California's outstanding oil operators. He was one of the first men in the industry to recognize the qualities of the then new seamless pipe and did much to promote its use in the oil fields.



Jack R. Herley

Mr. Herley's name will find an honorable place in any history of oilwell drilling. Before the days of controlled directional drilling. Herley-Kelley pioneered slant-hole drilling in Huntington Beach, California. This company discovered the deep zone in Montebello, the Del Valle Field, and made many other contributions to the growing industry. At the time of his untimely death, Mr. Herley was engaged in drilling a deep test in the Oxnard Field and another in the Signal Hill Field.

Mr. Herley was a member of the Virginia Country Club, the Balboa Bay Club, Pacific Coast Club, Southern California Tuna Club, Petroleum Club of Los Angeles, Catalina Tuna Club, Independent Petroleum Association, Stripper Well Association, the Oil Field Service Club, and others.

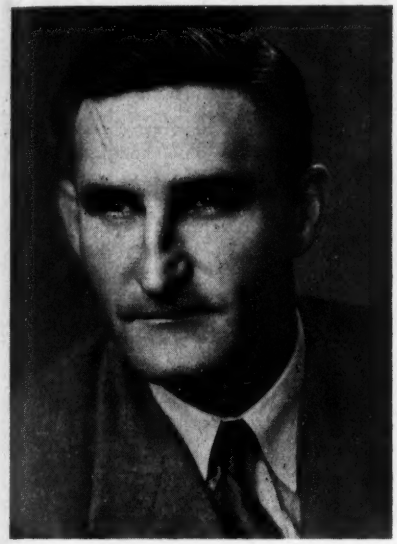
He was an ardent hunter, fisherman, and yachtsman. He loved upland game and waterfowl shooting, and was one man who would delay a lucrative business venture for the chance to go hunting or fishing.

He is survived by Blanche Herley, his widow, James E. Herley, his son, of Long Beach, and three brothers: Benjamin J. Sr. of Long Beach, James E. of Pittsburgh, and Thomas W. of Montebello.

Mr. Herley's many business interests will be continued and managed by his son, James, and his nephew, Ben Herley, of Long Beach.

T. A. McElheny Promoted By BJ Service, Inc.

John B. Merritt, executive vice-president of BJ Service, Inc., has announced the promotion of T. A. McElheny of the Bakersfield office of BJ Service, Inc.



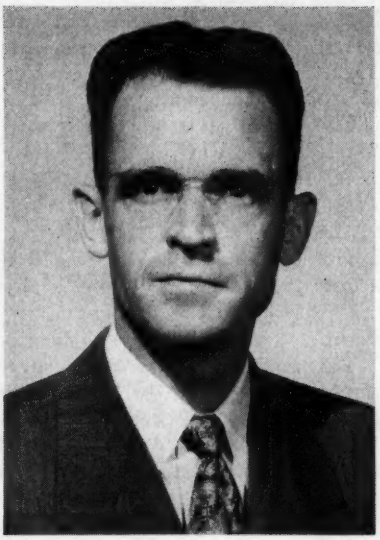
Thomas A. McElheny

Tom has been transferred from Bakersfield to Long Beach, where he will be in charge of the company's sales and service operations in the Los Angeles Basin area.

Tom McElheny has been associated with BJ Service, Inc., and its predecessor, International Cementers, Inc., since January, 1941. During that period, he has been active in sales and service operations at Ventura and Avenal, California; at Casper, Wyoming, and at Bakersfield.

Frances E. (Betty) Warren is in charge of detail work in the new distributing office of the Association of Desk and Derrick Clubs of North America in the new Sunray Building at Tulsa, Okla. From this office material and information are distributed to the 100 affiliated clubs in California and other states in this country and in Canada.

Edward M. Martin, free-lance public relations agent for several leading Los Angeles oil operators passed away recently at the age of 75. Born in San Francisco, since the turn of the century he had been identified with oil and mining.



Ken Swart has been appointed Chief Product Engineer for the H. C. Smith Oil Tool Co. Mr. Swart graduated from California Institute of Technology with a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1932 and the following year received his M.S. degree in Metallurgy from the same institution. He was associated with the engineering department of Security Engineering Division, Dresser Industries, Inc. for 19 years. He became Chief Engineer of that firm in 1945 and vice-president—engineering in 1950. From 1950-54 he was consultant for Naval Ordnance Test Station, Pasadena on problems relating to engineering organization and production engineering.

John A. Hendricks of Los Angeles, consulting geologist, has filed his declaration of intention to run for the board of education of Los Angeles in the April 5 municipal election.

Denny H. Lawrence of San Francisco, Standard Oil Company of California, was a principal speaker at the recent meeting of the Western Pension conference at the St. Francis Hotel in the Bay City.

Highly interesting was the address on "An Attempt to Assess the Future Oil Possibilities of California" given by V. L. Vanderhoof of Intex Oil Company at the meeting the other week of the San Joaquin Valley chapter, American Petroleum Institute in Bakersfield.

The Kern County Mineral Society at its last meeting in Bakersfield re-elected I. C. Schneider, president, for the ensuing term.

Gerrard Joins Darwin Clark

James W. Gerrard, one of the best known industrial advertising men in the West, has joined the staff of Darwin H. Clark Co., well-known advertising agency, as account supervisor of the firm's Los Angeles headquarters. He is first vice-president of the Southern California chapter of the National Industrial Advertisers Association and for the past five years has been head of the 15-man advertising and sales promotion department of the Beckman division of Beckman Instruments, Inc. of Fullerton, California.

James W. Gerrard

The Clark agency handles many leading instrument, electronic, oil-tool, chemical, aviation, metal processing and other industrial accounts. As exclusive Los Angeles member of Transamerica Advertising Agency Network, it has affiliated offices in 18 principal cities of the United States.

Newton Bass, former Long Beach oil man, can take a bow for his phenomenal development of the Mojave desert community he named Apple Valley. The latest reckoning indicated that more than 6000 lots have been sold to people, anxious to get away from cities, and a half-thousand homes have been built on them. Many of the new residents are persons particularly in love with the dry desert air.

Axelson Awarded National Safety Council And Aetna Insurance Company Safety Awards

W. W. Greenway, Vice President of U.S. Industries, Inc., and General Manager of the Axelson Manufacturing Company Division, announced today that Axelson has just received Special Awards of Merit from the National Safety Council and the Aetna Insurance Company. These awards were presented to the Axelson Manufacturing Company for an outstanding safety record of accident prevention performed over a six months' period.

The National Safety Council Special Award of Merit was presented by Mr. M. A. Koffman, Vice President of Industrial Safety for the Greater Los Angeles Safety Council. Mr. Koffman offered his congratulations to the Axelson organization and explained that this award is presented only where an establishment's record satisfies the rigid requirements laid down in the Council's award plan for recognizing good industrial safety records. In order to accomplish this recognition, the Axelson organization achieved an outstanding safety record of accident prevention of 1,100,114 manhours without a disabling injury in their Vernon, California plant.

The Aetna Insurance Company Safety Award was presented by Mr. A. G. Munro, Supervising Safety Director. This award was presented to Axelson for the outstanding record of six months' injury-free time attained by their Montebello Aircraft Component Manufacturing Plant.

This outstanding record of safety performance has been achieved through the wholehearted cooperation and constant teamwork of all Axelson employees. Teamwork has been the keynote in developing the strong safety program, with each employee recognizing the importance of safety. He is constantly kept aware of his responsibilities to safe methods of doing his daily work by banners and posters prominently displayed in every department. Safety teams are constantly on the alert to provide safe working conditions. Everyone at Axelson is ready to increase safety wherever a hazard might be. Through this spirit of cooperation, Axelson has maintained its unusually high safety record.

Mr. A. G. Munro, Supervising Safety Director, Aetna Insurance Company; Mr. Charles Adams, Director of Industrial Relations, Axelson Manufacturing Company; Mr. W. W. Greenway, Vice President of U.S. Industries, Inc., and General Manager of the Axelson Manufacturing Company Division; and Mr. M. A. Koffman, Vice President of Industrial Safety for the Greater Los Angeles Safety Council.

Oldest employee in point of service was retired recently by Bethlehem Supply Co., as Wendell Jones, Vice President, congratulates Fred J. Buffum, left, on completion of more than 28 years of continuous service. Looking on is Mrs. Ethel Buffum.

Russ Havenstrite, Los Angeles independent oil producer, probably will not return from his tour of India and the Orient for another six weeks or so. He flew to India a couple of weeks ago and while hunting tigers there is the guest of Maharajah of Jaipur. His journey also includes a visit with the Maharajah of Cooch Behar and still another tiger chase.

Pianist Liberace's Oklahoma property is adorned with two brand new wells, producing a total of 1500 barrels of oil a day. Speaking of the popular piano player, a musical score, with an oil theme, will in the near future be composed by George Liberace, orchestra director, and brother of Lee—yes that's the famed pianist's first name.

Key personnel changes in the production department of Union Oil Company were announced recently.

K. C. Vaughan, manager of field operations, Pacific Coast division, is appointed manager of the Natural Gas & Gasoline department.

W. O. Butler, superintendent of the Coast division at Santa Maria will replace Mr. Vaughan.

J. L. Stair, superintendent of the Coalinga division, will replace Mr. Butler.

H. T. Finney, drilling superintendent of the Southern division, will replace Mr. Stair.

Dresser Industries, Inc. and Lane-Wells Co. to Merge

Rodney S. Durkee, chairman of the board of Lane-Wells Company, announced that the board of directors of the company have voted to accept the offer of Dresser Industries, Inc. to exchange 576,000 shares of Dresser Industries common stock for all the assets of Lane-Wells Company, subject to that company's liabilities. In effect the stockholders of Lane-Wells Company will receive 4 shares of Dresser Common Stock for each 5 shares of Lane-Wells stock presently held. A special meeting of the stockholders of Lane-Wells will be called in the near future to approve the action of the board of directors.

The Lane-Wells Company is a leading supplier of oil and gas field services and products. It operates through 3 divisions and two foreign subsidiaries and has over 100 branches throughout the oil fields of the United State, Canada and Venezuela. Lane-Wells equipment and methods are in use in most of the principal oil producing countries of the world.

Well Surveys, Inc., a wholly owned subsbidiary of Lane-Wells, pioneered the development of radioactivity logging of oil wells and now licenses the right to use this important service to other companies. In addition to a highly skilled technical engineering and research department in the parent company, this research subsidiary is engaged in electronic research and the development of new instruments and tools for oil well logging that promise great things for the future.

In commenting upon this important merger, H. N. Mallon, president of Dresser Industries, Inc., states, "We are delighted to learn of the favorable action taken by the board of directors of Lane-Wells. The Company is a leader in its field. Lane-Wells has a fine management and an outstanding field organization, and will make a most valuable addition to the Dresser group of companies. The Lane-Wells management will continue in full operating control of the company as heretofore."

Mr. Mallon went on to state, "This acquisition is of particular significance to Dresser because it will add substantially to that portion of Dresser sales represented by expendable products and services, the demand for which has continued to increase at a most attractive rate. At present, Dresser furnishes equipment for the drilling of oil wells through its subsidiary, Ideco. Dresser manufactures engines and compressors for repressuring gas fields, for gas pipelines, and for refineries, through it subsidiary, Clark Bros. Co. Another member company, Pacific Pumps, Inc., makes pumps and similar equipment for the oil industry. Another company in the Dresser family, a mining and milling operation, Magnet Cove Barium Corporation, offers a complete drilling mud and chemical service. Drilling bits are manufactured for the oil industry by a subsidiary, Security Engineering. Viewed from the over-all point of view, the addition of Lane-Wells to the Dresser family takes on special importance. Working together, Dresser and Lane-Wells will broaden still further the range of their respective services to the dynamic oil and gas industries. Not only will Dresser's practical experience with equipment for oil field drilling be broadened to include bottom hole services, but the merger provides the opportunity through electronics research and improved instrumentation to advance the art of finding and producing oil and gas."

API Housing Group Set Up On Coast

Because the size of the 35th annual meeting of the American Petroleum Institute in San Francisco next November will tax hotel facilities there, a special API housing committee has been set up on the West Coast to handle hotel assignments. The institute has announced that all reservation requests must be sent to the special committee—API Housing Bureau, 61 Grove street, San Francisco 2.

Do You Remember?

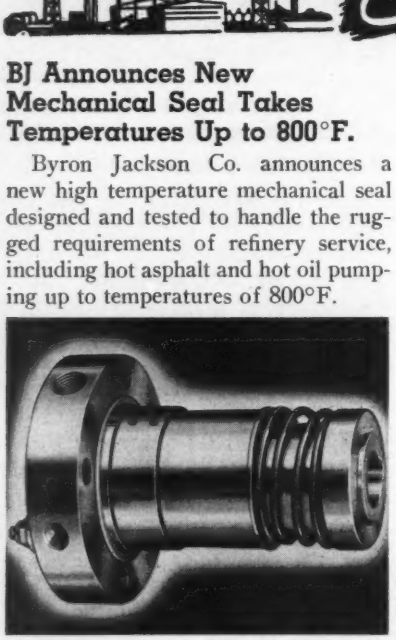
The accompanying photograph will be of interest to many Los Angeles Basin oil men. It was given to Ray "Foot" Andrade (no relation to Cisco), the McCullough Tool Company engineer, by the sister of Alex "Mutt" McLean up in Ventura. It shows an oil men's baseball team out in Olinda about 1908 or 1909 when the Orange County village was a hustling community.

In the back row are John Craig, Graham & Loftus; Art Cripps, Olinda Land Company; Bob Isbell, CCMO Company; John Martin, captain, local druggist; Charles Lloyd, Olinda Land Company; Dutch Brown, then with CCMO, now with Baash-Ross; (First name unknown) Powell, Union Oil Company. In the front row are Earl Brown, brother of Dutch; Ray Perry, CCMO; Billy McLean, Graham & Loftus; and Claude Buzzard, CCMO.

Perhaps some old timer can fill in on the history of this group, several of whom have passed on.

BJ Announces New Mechanical Seal Takes Temperatures Up to 800°F.

Byron Jackson Co. announces a new high temperature mechanical seal designed and tested to handle the rugged requirements of refinery service, including hot asphalt and hot oil pumping up to temperatures of 800°F.



This seal requires no cold oil injection and it needs no auxiliary pumping for coolant. It is an all-metal precision seal with no gaskets other than the shaft sleeve to the shaft and a seal cover to the stuffingbox. It is completely corrosion-resistant.

According to Byron Jackson this BJ Mechanical Seal is currently in use in a number of refinery and other high temperature installations and has proved to be a reliable, safe and effective answer to shaft sealing in both high temperature and corrosive pumping service.

The new BJ High-Temp Mechanical Seals are now available in any size and for any pressure encountered in refinery operation. Further information and details can be obtained from:—Byron Jackson Co. Mechanical Seal Section, P.O. Box 2017, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles 54, Calif.

Byron Jackson Co. Licenses Jet Perforating Process to Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Co.

Byron Jackson Co. has just completed negotiations under which Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Co. is being licensed to use the jet method of perforating oil well casing, according to a statement issued recently by E. S. Dulin, president of Byron Jackson, at the company's Los Angeles headquarters.

The jet process is a development of the "shaped charge" perfected during World War II for the famed antitank bazooka. Following the war Byron Jackson Co. and Welex Jet Services, Inc. became co-developers in adapting the principle to the improvement of perforating oil well casing and fracturing tight oil bearing formations to increase production.

The continually expanding use of the process, according to Mr. Dulin's statement, is based upon its amazing operational record. Without exception, he says, jet perforation provides greater penetration into oil-bearing formations than any method heretofore known to the petroleum industry.

Byron Jackson Co. is the sole licensor for the western hemisphere and estimates that at the present time better than one-half of the casing perforating in oil fields of that area is performed by the jet process.

Chemical Division of Armour Introduces New Product

A single product which does the work of two or more agents is being used successfully to combat corrosion and bacteria in water flooding secondary oil recovery operations according to the Chemical Division of Armour and Company.

Called Arquad T 2C, the product has been found effective in fields scattered across the oil producing sections of the country and under widely divergent conditions.

A quarternary ammonium salt of fatty amines, the product has solved one of the problems which stumped oil engineers. Although many floods started satisfactorily, it soon became apparent something was wrong when injection rates dropped and injection pressures rose. Corrosion was blamed at first, but when inhibitors failed to solve the problem, the technicians dug deeper for a solution.

Discovery of a sulfate reducing bacteria gave investigators a clue to the answer. It was found the bacteria brought about production of hydrogen sulfide in the water flooding system, and this agent reacted with iron to produce insoluble iron sulfide.

This black, finely divided substance was deposited on the oil bearing sand, making it more and more difficult for water to pass through the pores. At the same time the hydrogen sulfide in the system caused still more corrosion.

Armour and Company chemists had developed several chemicals from animal and vegetable fats and included among them were the quaternary ammonium compounds. The quaternaries made from primary amines proved to have excellent bactericidal properties. Further research showed the quaternaries made from secondary amines had very good action as corrosion inhibitors.

A mixture of the two was clearly indicated and results were in excess of expectations. Corrosion was reduced by 95% and elimination of sulfate reducing bacteria and algae was complete.

Moving from the laboratory to the field, the quaternaries proved their versatility. They are presently being used successfully, and at a reasonable cost, in 27 flooding operations in Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky. The quaternaries are also being used in the largest flooding operations in Oklahoma, in the brine waters of Kansas and West Texas. Even the clay swelling sands of California are being treated with quaternaries.

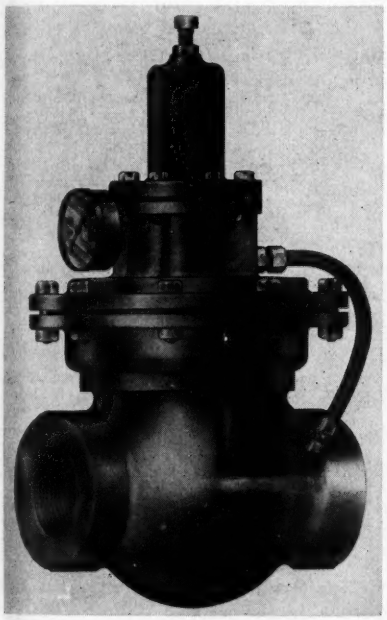
The Quaternaries obtain their bactericidal qualities by interfering with the cell metabolism. Unlike other bacteria, the sulfate reducers have not

as yet developed resistant strains to the chemicals.

The quaternaries are normally used in concentrations of only 4 to 15 ppm. Treatments are figured to cost from 1 to 3 mills per barrel, depending on the type of water treated.

B.S.&B. Introduces New Regulator

Black, Sivalls & Bryson, Inc., manufacturers of oilfield equipment and automatic controls, introduces the New Type 73-22 Back Pressure Regulator with Integral Controller for services where close regulation and complete closure are required in a single instrument.



Designed for optimum control on low pressure oil separators, water knockouts, gunbarrels, gas gathering lines and other equipment requiring close pressure control as well as tight shutoff, the BS&B Type 73-22 works equally well, within its pressure limitations, in all gas or air services that require back pressure regulation.

The integral controller, which provides closer sensitivity to pressure fluctuations than can be obtained with a weight loaded regulator, also has a much wider range of adjustment than a regulator depending on direct spring loading.

Construction features include a hi-tensile cast iron valve body, spring housing and diaphragm casings; pressure transmission tube; pilot operating mechanism machined from stainless steel and aluminum; Buna-N diaphragm with no center punching; nylon reinforced Buna-N soft seat insert; spring loaded Teflon packing; stainless steel valve stem; valve seat machined into valve body.

Meeting the high standards of quality and performance of other BS&B controls, the BS&B 73-22 Back Pressure Regulator operates with a minimum dissipation of the gas or air used in the controller.

Available sizes: 2″ screwed globe, 3″ and 4″ flanged globe. Control range: 5 to 125 lbs. • Temperature range: Up to 165° F.

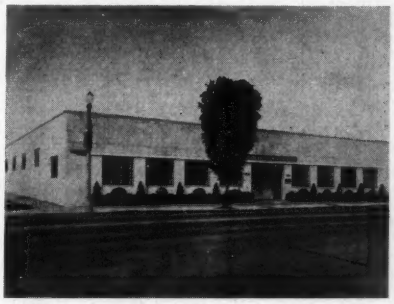
Further information may be obtained from Black, Sivalls & Bryson, Inc., Product Information Department, 7500 E. 12th Street, Kansas City 26, Missouri.

Johe Ranch Wildcat Quits

A depth of 3760 feet marked the end of Union Oil Company's test work with its Hotchkiss No. 85-12 wildcat on Section 12-30s-20e on the Johe Ranch, Kern County. In going to a total depth of 3760 feet, the Phacoides was topped at 2150 feet, first Point of Rocks at 2475 feet and the second Point of Rocks at 3150 feet.

Precision Radiation Instruments Adds Ten Thousand Feet

Los Angeles leadership in the electronics industry was pointed out again when L. Norman, chairman of the board and president of Precision Radiation Instruments, Inc., recently announced the latest expansion in facilities to better service its customers. The company's general offices have been moved to a modern 10,000 square foot, brick building at 4223 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, California.



The general offices of the company were formerly at 2235 So. La Brea Avenue. This location has been retained as the company's sales office. Precision is a pioneer in the development of nuclear instrumentation and is the world's largest manufacturer of portable radiation equipment for uranium surveys and oil exploration.

S. R. Bowen Company Increases Fishing Tool Service With Company Airplane

S. R. Bowen Company's newly inaugurated airplane facilities are providing increased customer service and assisting company personnel in the performance of their duties. This new service offers the following advantages:

Special equipment can be moved to a site where it is urgently required with the least possible loss of time. This has proven particularly advantageous in instances where outlying rental departments have encountered fishing problems requiring the application of standard tools but of unusual size specifications or when it has been necessary, for urgent use at a distant locality, to manufacture special equipment requiring the services of their engineering department and manufacturing facilities at Santa Fe Springs.

THIS LAUGH

His friends had warned him that he was asking for trouble when he married a young widow who had an eight-year-old boy. He discovered what they meant when he left on a honeymoon with his bride—and the small boy. Day after day, night after night, the harrassed husband tried to be alone with his bride, but the little boy refused to leave his mother's side. The groom tried everything to get the boy out from underfoot. Movies? The kid had seen them all. The zoo? The kid hated animals. And so it went, until one afternoon the desperate lover had an inspiration.

"Tell you what I'll do, Sonny. You go down on the corner in front of the hotel, and I'll give you 50 cents for every red hat that passes by." The child thought it over, agreed to the plan and dashed off to look for red hats.

At last the man and his new wife were alone together! But hardly had they begun to carry out their long-delayed plans, when a knock sounded at the door. "Well, what is it?" shouted the frustrated groom.

Came the voice of little Sonny: "Before you bankrupt yourself in there, I thought I ought to tell you that there's a Shrine parade in town!"

The cow jumped over the fence. The fence was too high. Udder destruction.

"Son," said the sultan, "when I was your age I'd made a million."

Life of the Party: the guy who is full of sextemporaneous stories.

OFF!!

Going the rounds of the contract drilling industry is the story of a Texas oil worker who climbed off his rig during bitterly cold weather near Glendive, Montana.

"Hey," yelled the foreman, "where are you going?"

"To get my fur cap," was the reply.

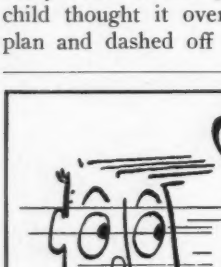
"Okay, where is it?"

"In Texas."

The young man looked anxiously at the unconscious form being wheeled past. Moments later, the nurse motioned him in and whispered, "It's a boy!"

The chap turned to the doctor and asked puzzledly, "Why did it happen only six months after our marriage?"

"Don't be alarmed, my boy," the doctor said assuredly, "This often happens in the case of the first child, but never afterwards."



FOR

24 Hour

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DISTRIBUTORS FOR
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SPECIALIZED SHOP WORK
REMODELING AND REPAIR OF RIGS

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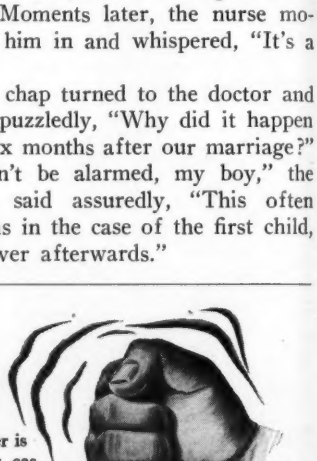
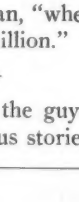
Ventura Office: 1254 No. Ventura Ave., Phone Miller 39046

the BOWEN CASING THUMPER



The Bowen Casing Thumper is indispensable for landing casing in slant holes. In such holes so much friction is encountered that it is impossible to land the casing by simply lowering it into the hole and the BOWEN CASING THUMPER provides the additional force required to drive the casing down the hole.



SIMPLE CONSTRUCTION

The Mandrel and Bowl are free to move longitudinally a limited amount in relation to each other and are packed off to prevent fluid leakage from either internal or external pressure. The coupling of the tool is smaller in diameter than the Bowl insuring the ability to strike blows should the Bowl stick. All types of "inside the casing operations" can be conducted after the string is landed because the bore through the Thumper corresponds with the internal diameter of the casing.

Here's the tool that provides the force needed to drive casing down slant or crooked holes.

Write for descriptive literature.

SR BOWEN CO